

# MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN



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**Farm Hints for April.**

Winter has been holding on wonderfully in some parts of New England, well up to the last of March with hardly a break. In Northern Vermont correspondents report continuous sleighing since early in November. It has generally been a favorable season for work in farm and road, and all necessary to be done at this season should have been accomplished. Everything should be in readiness for the spring's work as it comes to hand in order that it may be attended to in season.

**WORK AT THE BARN.**

For another month it will be necessary to care for the stock at the barn, more attention is needed to keep the cows quiet and contented in the stables as warm weather advances. And they will require good feed as well as care to keep the milk well up in yield. The grain feed may need to be increased a little or changed perhaps, and the best of fodder should be available at this time. The cows should have plenty of water and they should be often oared, as at this time they are shedding their old coats which process causes irritation and itching. As the warm weather approaches the stables should be kept clean and well ventilated. A little land plaster scattered around in the stables will be of benefit and cost little.

On every farm there should be fall, winter or spring calves. These will require some attention in order that they may be kept thrifty and growing. Feed as much new, warm skim milk as can be safely done, give regularly a little good hay, and be sure to keep dry and comfortable. The last is very important, as a calf or pig can hardly be expected to do well in a wet, close, dirty pen.

**THE DAIRY SITUATION.**

During the winter the markets for butter have been good, reaching an unusually high point by March 1, when there was a reaction, and prices began to go down quite rapidly, as they are apt to do under such conditions.

The small amount of winter-made butter had much to do with this market creating a demand for which there was not an adequate supply. If it had not been for the large amount in cold storage the scarcity would have been still more pronounced. As a result of these conditions the old stock should be practically exhausted by the time a sufficient amount of the new make comes upon the market to supply current demands, and this outcome should be much more favorable for dairymen than was the case a year ago when there was such an over-supply on hand.

**MAKING SUGAR.**

The season is late, but the conditions are now favorable. What the results will be time alone can determine, but considerable expectation has been entertained of a good season. Certainly there was little weather during the winter that was warm enough to start the sap running.

The ground was frozen deeply, but success will depend largely on the right kind of weather. It is to be hoped there will be a favorable season and an average yield, as on some farms sugar is a source of considerable income, and good, pure maple products are always in demand throughout the country.

**THE EARLY SOWING OF GRAIN.**

Sowing will hardly be over before the farmer will be turning his attention to sowing early grain crops. It is usually better to sow wheat, barley and oats as soon as the condition of the soil and the weather will admit. Of course it is not best to work heavy soil when it is wet or soft, but when sufficiently dry with a reasonable probability of warm weather, then the seed had better be put in the ground, as, all things considered, the prospect for a satisfactory crop will be better than when the work is left until late.

There may not be quite so heavy a growth of straw, but the quality of the grain will be better. If the land is to be seeded to grass along with these crops, as is so often the case, there will be a better prospect of a successful catch than when late sown.

The land should be put in the best condition for these crops by properly fertilizing and fitting. If there is not enough manure it will be found profitable to use some special fertilizers, which will also aid in establishing a good catch of grass.

If possible do not seed a field to grass without first clearing it of all obstructions, so as to leave it in good condition for the use of harvesting machinery.

**PLANT POTATOES EARLY.**  
It is a pretty good plan to plant potatoes as early as the weather and condition of the soil will admit.  
The soil should be thoroughly fitted. A

good clover sod will be well suited to this crop.

Not very much stable manure should be used, as it is more likely to harbor disease and rot. There are special fertilizers now prepared that produce good results with this crop. On farms where the same crop is not grown on the land two years in succession, with good management there should be the best of success. Where grown for home use principally, choose the varieties that are the best liked. If for the market, then of course those kinds should be selected that promise the best in yield and price. There should be at least two of the early varieties, a first and second for succession, and then something good for the general crop and late keeping.

**AFTER HATCHING.**

The chick should have nothing to eat for twenty-four hours after it is hatched, as it takes from twenty-four to thirty-six hours for the chick to absorb or use up the yolk of the egg which nature has provided to care for it during that time. Possibly more than fifty per cent. of the mortality in chicks is caused by injudicious feeding. We now have the chicks thirty-six hours old to care for and feed. The first thing the chick should have to eat is fine grit composed of fine crystal grit, oyster shells and granulated charcoal. This should be kept before them at all times. Chicks should be fed three to five times a day for two weeks with a variety of foods. They should be fed lightly, just what they will eat up clean in a few minutes, and none should be left lying around.

**EARLY CHICKS.**

Early chickens are really not so hard to raise as sometimes imagined. It is fully as easy to fight dampness and occasional spells of severe weather as to protect them against the lice which cause so much trouble in the chickens hatched late in the summer. The per cent. of early chickens which live is likely to be as great as those hatched in July. The profits on the March chickens are properly raised and marketed are three times that of the July chickens, while the March to May pullets of the medium and large breeds are the main reliance for winter laying. If the stock is good and vigorous, the chicks will stand a good deal of cold. Moisture and cold combined are the severe trial, but there is no reason why they cannot be provided with dry runs spread with coarse gravel. Boring for their feed among the gravel, they get plenty of exercise to keep them warm. Lice will not give much trouble if the old hens are thoroughly free from the pests before the chickens are hatched. They should not be kept indoors too long, but should have access to the open air on fairly good days. For the first week or so they will do all right kept wholly indoors. In fact, they can be raised to the broiler age indoors if given all needed care, but are not likely to be attended to on this plan on the average farm.

**NEW BLOOD.**

If intending to add any new blood to the flock, now is the time to make selection. New stock will cost more than last fall and the selection will be from a smaller number, but better select in March than try to find anything in May. The best time to pick out stock is just before winter, when breeders are anxious to reduce their stock before going into winter quarters, when prices are at their lowest and there is a whole hatching to select from. Choose for size, strength and vigor and never buy a bird with any conspicuous faults merely to secure a little lower price. The quality of the stock will be affected for years by using such a bird. It is a mistake to use late hatched cockerels or pullets, as the vigor and size of the flock are weakened. In the case of turkeys, new stock is almost always desirable. Most turkey flocks are inbred to some extent and lacking in vigor. It is better to send away to some section where the Black Head disease does not prevail.

**EXHIBITION STOCK.**

Pens for breeding exhibition stock should be made early, as only the early-hatched chickens will be mature enough for exhibition purposes in the show season, which is from November to January. It is best to have these pens extremely select, even if the number has to be kept down lower than you would like. Better a few extra choice chicks carefully raised than to rely upon big numbers and haphazard breeding and care.

**THE EWES IN SPRING.**

During recent years it has been a practice to clip ewes as soon as possible after the lambing season, and we have been well satisfied with the result. The wool presents a much better appearance and is free from weak spots. It is well known that it is difficult to keep a good milking ewe from going down in flesh, and this is sure to weaken the strength of the staple. The ewes must necessarily be stabled much of the time, and the lambs soon begin to tramp over them when lying, which soils and injures the wool. We clip without washing, and select a mild spell of weather for doing it, and when they have been clipped for a few days a cold flurry does not seem to affect them; but if out when a rain comes, they rapidly gather to the shed, and this is a decided advantage to the lambs, as they will often remain out, if not clipped, until the lambs are very cold. After clipping, both the ewes and lambs seem to improve more rapidly.

**A Modern Milk Route.**

The man who can produce milk which will sell for fifty to one hundred per cent. more than the ordinary product on the market is doing humanly more good, and getting just as well paid for his labor, besides having the satisfaction of knowing that he is helping to raise the standard of

the dairy business and make it what it should be, a profitable one.

A dairyman who is a combination of a business man, farmer and dairyman, and who knows his business from A to Z, with know how to pick his land for giving a milk as rich in butter fat as possible, and will give quantity sufficient to make them profitable. He will build his stables in such a manner that they can be easily kept sweet and clean, and he will then see to it that they are kept so. We make a practice of cleaning the stables early in the morning and sprinkling the floor with gypsum or sand plaster, then sweep it into the gutter to help absorb the moisture.

I hardly need say that it is positively



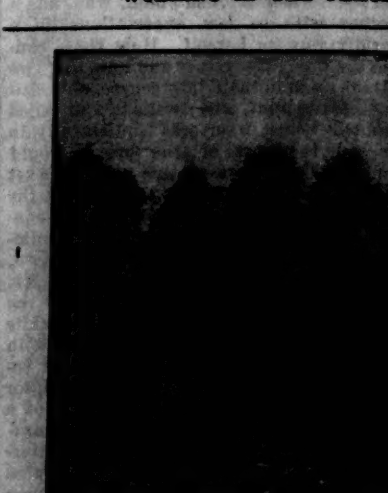
OUR RIGHT HAND MEN—THREE VALUABLE ASSISTANTS.



FIFTY ACRES OF APPLES—THE BEST VARIETIES.



WORKING IN THE PEACH FIELD—FORTY-FIVE ACRES.



BUDDING STOCK

Of the farm of H. S. Taylor & Co., Rochester, N. Y.

necessary to have a neat and clean place to strain and cool the milk and bottle, if bottling is done. Steam and boiling water are certainly necessary. There are plenty of cheap boilers and water heaters on the market that can be purchased for \$50 or less, which will answer every purpose, and no first-class milkman can afford to be without some steam equipment, as all milk is coming in contact with milk should be exposed to a temperature of 212° F. for a few minutes after each milking, and should be cooled every time they are used. The man who produces a really first-class milk should have a better price for his milk, and here is where he needs to be up to date, in business rules and regulations.

as well as a salesman. A neat, clean, well painted and kept

stable, as an advertising investment, is, I should always have a pleasant smile and dress according to the class of trade he is catering to. I have great respect and admiration for the man who does not know how, but is trying to learn and improve, especially in the handling of a product so delicate and easily spoiled as milk, but I have no use for the man who says that anything is good enough, and distributes a milk that is liable to cause sickness and perhaps death to little ones that are obliged to take what is given them.

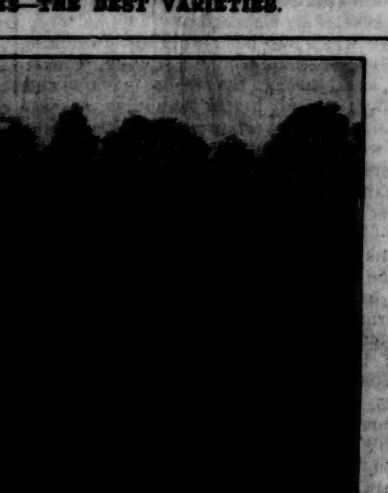
A greater number of the people are demanding a better milk and it keeps the



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dairymen growing to keep up with the production and most competition the same as in every other business, and the man that can handle a large milk business on a profitable basis never need look for a position. I would advise every careful investigation, and a positive knowledge that the proper man who has proven himself a dairyman is available to manage the city and of the business, before investing in such an enterprise. Usually such companies are presented by some one out of all familiarity with the handling of milk, and some one is chosen to manage it who knows nothing of the nature of the delicate product he has to handle, consequently it is the history of most of such companies that the original

investors do not get the returns expected.—  
Ira O. Johnson.

**The State Taxes.**  
In alluding to the direct tax of four million dollars in Massachusetts, which has caused a search for new sources of revenue the New York Tribune says that it is always easy to raise a clamor about extravagance in the face of such a situation and believe there is always need of a treasury watchdog, for unfortunately it is impossible to make public money go as far as it should; because almost nobody stops to count what he does officially, as if he were doing for himself or a private corporation.

It concludes, however, that the mere growth of government expenses is not necessarily a sign of extravagance, for the reason that more is demanded of government than ever before in the way of public improvements. "Our grandfathers," it remarks, "did not require good roads of the State or rural free delivery of the nation. They were content with dirty streets in the city and water from the town pump." And we are told that "the lot of Massachusetts and New York is the lot of every progressive community the world over that seeks to give its people the benefit of modern knowledge and modern inventions which promote health, comfort, prosperity and morality."

We talk a great deal about the good old times, but life is much easier for all classes than it was a hundred or even fifty years ago in this State. There was poverty then as there is now, but with smaller populations it was not as noticeable as it is today, and people who are supported by the State for various reasons are much more comfortable than they used to be in former generations. They are better housed, better warmed, better clad and better fed. All this costs money, and the laying out of parks for the enjoyment of the people is now carried on to a much greater extent than was ever dreamed of by our predecessors.

Some think that we could do without the magnificent public grounds that have been provided in this State. They are to be sure, expensive, and they are not kept in proper condition for nothing; but we have them, and it is doubtful if any one would relinquish their advantages, if that were possible. All this, nevertheless, does not mean that State officials should not be economical. They should not waste public money in a spendthrift who, in his prodigal private expenditures, never looks into the future. Property owners have some rights that ought to be respected, and they should not be made to groan under too heavy a burden of taxation.

**A Well-Known Holstein.**

Margaret Lincoln St. De Kol won first prize in the New England Fair public butter test a few years ago, and one of her sons was sold to the United States Government to head the herd at the Soldiers' Home at Togus, Me. Another son was at the head of the famous herd owned by Prof. A. R. Marsh of Chester, Vt. A few years ago another of her sons won first prize at the famous New York State Fair, and last year won a prize at the St. Louis Exposition.

The cow is now owned by Mr. F. P. Knowles of Worcester, Mass., to whom I sold her a few years ago. I understand that since Mr. Knowles purchased her she has made an official test, under the auspices of the Massachusetts State College of over seventeen pounds of butter in seven days during a very hot week in summer.

It is twenty years ago next month that I purchased my first thoroughbred Holstein, and for the last ten years it has been my object to raise Holsteins that would not only give a fair amount of milk, but would make a large amount of butter. In public tests this herd has won several prizes in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont, and at the close of an official test one year ago, conducted by the State College, every cow two years old or over was accepted in the Advanced Register of the H.-F. Association on account of the butter records. This reputation can be claimed by no other herd in this section of the country.

We feed ensilage and a good quality of hay and vary the grain ration somewhat according to the price of different feeds. The writer believes in feeding quite a little ground oats, and we also feed more or less oil meal and a comparatively large amount of bran as well as some gluten or gluten feed.

**Antonia, N. H.**

**Feeding Extra Early Potatoes.**

I was much interested in the recent article in the paper in regard to starting potatoes early in the season by bringing the seed into a warm room a few weeks before the time of planting, keeping them in the meantime in shallow boxes or as the gardeners call them "flats." I have practiced that method for many years, and always with satisfactory results. I have now potatoes ready to dig from two to three weeks earlier than by the usual course, and they come at a time when potatoes are always high in price.

Waiting the seed so the eyes will push is far better than planting in hotbeds to be transplanted later. By the transplanting the growth is always checked, and I think, also, that the crop is diminished. It is a good deal of work to transplant potatoes that have made considerable growth, while by the sowing method there is scarcely any extra work and the crop will be equally as good. I have tried the method on the potato in the house and allowing the sprouts to grow two inches long.

I always have the flats so shallow as to hold but a single layer of potatoes. I select a tin just below the market size and never cut them as this would tend to give them a check. If the seed is brought into a

warm room and placed in the lightest part of it the buds from the eyes will turn green and swell into short, stubby sprouts that will not rub off nearly so readily in handling as those would that were allowed to reach a length of two or more inches. The stronger the light the stronger the buds will be. I have had them a quarter of an inch in diameter when scarcely more than that in length.

With my small garden I do not raise this crop for market, so I can sprout seed enough in a shallow tin set in a strong light by a window. The skin of the potato will turn green or almost black, but the potato does not wither as potatoes do in the cellar when allowed to make long sprouts while seeking the light.

I always plant the potatoes carefully in the bottom in a rather deep furrow and cover lightly. When the sprouts begin to show I cover again, if there is danger of frost, and cover over or hilling up till the furrows are filled level with the surface of the field. There is no use in planting out so early as to have the tops killed by frost, as that would offset all gain.

This method is worth adopting by all who aim to have early potatoes for the table at a little extra cost. I have known a gardener in northern Rhode Island to raise them by the acre in this way and have a full crop to sell the first week in July.

**A. W. CHEEVER.**

**Potato Markets Very Dull.**

No improvement can be noted in the leading potato markets, the supply continuing far in excess of the demand, prices tending to work down rather than up. Choice Michigan and New York State potatoes can be bought at \$1 per bag in New York city, a price which in some cases means a loss to the original buyers. Prices in Michigan are quoted at 12 to 15 cents to growers, and report says that farmers have offered potatoes at eight cents per bushel by the carload. Maine potatoes are selling at about \$1 per bag in New York, growers receiving about 25 cents per bushel. Notwithstanding the low price, reports from the Maine potato-growing sections indicate good courage on the part of the growers and probably the average this year will be large. They argue that high prices often follow a year of low prices.

In New York there is a demand among the German trade for the German called potatoes, and above one thousand bags were imported from Germany last week. This variety of potatoes has been experimented with to some extent in this country, and could, no doubt, be grown successfully.

The Southern potato crop is said to be very heavy, the acreage being large and the outlook favorable. Large plantings are made in Florida, Texas, Louisiana, Alabama, Virginia and the Carolinas. The second crop of Bermuda potatoes is about done. They bring five or six cents a pound wholesale.

**Vegetables in Moderate Supply.**

Several lines of vegetables are coming in this week in somewhat reduced quantities and selling at higher prices. Otherwise the tendency as usual at this time is downward. Hothouse asparagus is now nearly done, and its place taken by Southern and California at 30 to 35 cents per bunch, \$5 to \$6 per dozen. Hothouse beets, beet greens, mushrooms, radishes, tomatoes sell about the same as last week. Rhubarb is one cent lower for hothouse grown, and meets some competition from the California product.

Onions are more plenty, but the range of quotations is still high. Spinach is in good demand and the native hothouse product maintains its price. Large lots of kale arrived by boat Wednesday and the price which was low already went lower, lots selling as low as 75 cents per barrel. Some excellent parsnips are arriving from New York, Long Island grown. Choice squash is now rather scarce and prices show a tendency to advance. The advance in turnips proved only temporary, causing an immediate increase in shipments and a return to former low prices. Southern truck is becoming more plenty every week. String beans, which have been very scarce all winter, are now much lower. Southern eggplants, peppers and tomatoes show a tendency to decline, although choice tomatoes, whether hothouse or Southern, are in light supply.

At New York the market for old potatoes shows no improvement. Offerings are liberal and, with trade light, prices rule low and in buyers' favor. Sweet potatoes in light receipt and slightly higher. Asparagus is in heavier supply from Charleston, but demand is active and markets hold firm at higher prices. Beets and carrots sell well when fancy, but latter lower, and under increasing receipts. New cabbages are scarce and old are in liberal supply and very weak. Cauliflowers in light receipt. Cucumbers scarce and celery steady. Ch celery and escarole lower. Eggplants firm. Kale and spinach meet a good outlet at fairly steady prices. Lettuce selling well, with scattering sales of fancy above quotations. Leeks and scallions increasing in supply and weak. New onions firm; old held slightly higher, but only occasional sales reported above quotations. Tomatoes show wide range in quality and value. Rutabaga turnips weak. Watercress lower.

Very little maple sugar is arriving, but the demand is also light. Considerable old stock is offered for sale. Reports from the maple sections indicate so far a light yield. New sugar sells at 10 to 14 cents and heavy new syrup at 50 cents to \$1 per gallon.

Field beans have been arriving in large quantities and the market is weak, showing a decline in some lines. Reports from the last week were nearly three thousand bags and for the previous week nearly five thousand bags.





## Dairy.

## Foods for Milk Making.

During an instructive lecture by Prof. J. H. Hills at the late Vermont Dairyman's convention in Montpelier, the speaker declared that the feeding standards are better understood by farmers today than they used to be, enabling them to select and compound these rations of the grain feeds that are the best adapted to the production of milk and cheese and in the most economical manner.

This idea will also extend to the growing of the different kinds of fodder that are the best for the purpose and then adapting the grain feeds to these in right kind and proportion so as to produce best results.

This subject will require some investigation and study on the part of the farmer, but much information can be obtained from the bulletins of the experiment stations and the agricultural papers.

Professor Hills spoke of the fact that it is being found, as one of the results of scientific research, that less protein is required in the compounding of feeding rations for milk cows than had hitherto been considered necessary. As protein is an expensive ingredient in feed formulas this conclusion will lead to a reduction in cost and hence be of more or less value to farmers.

And here it might be well to add that this matter may become more simplified and helpful in the growing of such crops on the farm as contain a large percentage of protein, as the clover, particularly the alfalfa, where this can be successfully grown. Peas also are rich in this element and when grown along with oats make excellent feed for milk, either when fed green or when made into hay, or allowed to ripen for the grain.

When the corn crop with its wealth of fat and heat-producing elements, a crop that is adapted to so large a portion of this country, will greatly assist in the farm-grown products. With such resources it is possible for the farmer with the purchasing of such grain feeds as are necessary to make up a ration that will produce the most satisfactory results in the dairy.

Vermont. E. R. TOWLE.

## Butter Prices Higher.

The advancing tendency noted last week since the recovery from the sudden drop a fortnight ago has continued, and quotations have moved slightly in an upward direction. The top quotation is now twenty-nine cents. The official Produce Exchange quotation is only 28½ cents, but actual sales as recorded indicate that the higher figure is a fair summing up. Receipts continue very light, and the whole course of the market indicates that the drop in prices extended farther than was warranted by the situation. If the quotation of 35 cents and above were justified by the light receipts, the increase has certainly not been sufficient to sustain anything like a decline of 10 cents a pound from the top. The recent advance suggests a medium between these extremes as being more in accord with conditions. Probably the decline was to some extent in anticipation of the usual spring increase, but unless the pasturage season opens unusually early it will be some time before the factories will be in full swing and producing natural colored, grass-fed butter. The month before pasturage is well known as a hard one to keep up the full flow of milk and except for the large number of cows beginning to yield at that time there will be little or no increase in the total product. The actual situation is that few dealers in Boston have any great surplus and they are not at all anxious to push sales by making concessions, preferring rather to wait for the buyer to come to their terms. A considerable increase in shipments would, no doubt, change all this, but at present the situation is firm at quotations, and some dealers hold at higher prices than quoted.

Makers of print and box butters have not been encouraged by the recent market when they realized hardly any more than the tub butter, and they have been sending less to this market of late. Many box and print lots have actually sold below the same grade of tub butter. The cause seems to be that some leading houses have quite large stock on hand which they do not wish to keep any longer than is necessary and are accepting offers lower in proportion than tub butter.

Storage butter is in light supply. There is very little in sight, about fifty thousand packages less than at this time last year, but holders, knowing they can sell readily at any time, refuse to part with it for less than within one cent of the top quotation for fresh made.

The cheese market continues steady at the range of quotations given last week. Demand is good, although buyers seem a little reluctant about taking large lots, preferring to take only what is required for actual needs rather than to run the risk of having prices decline after purchasing. The supply on hand is very light, is firmly held, and no sign of lower rates appears, but buyers naturally argue that lower prices are very likely to come later in the season. The top quotation is 14 cents for New York fall twin and extra sage.

## 150,000 Dairy Farmers

are going to be added to the big army of more than 600,000 users of

## DE LAVAL CREAM SEPARATORS

during the year 1905.

The all important profit-earning, time-saving need of the Cream Separator is now universally recognized by everyone.

As between different separators the De Laval is the original, and has for twenty-five years led in centrifugal separation. Would-be imitating machines simply utilize the construction which expired De Laval patents leave free to them. New patents still protect modern improvements.

The St. Louis Exposition gave the Grand Prize (very highest award) to the De Laval Separator and three Grand and Gold Medal prizes to its inventors and improvers, while the Grand Prize and Gold Medal butter exhibits were all De Laval made.

A catalogue and any desired particulars are to be had for the asking.

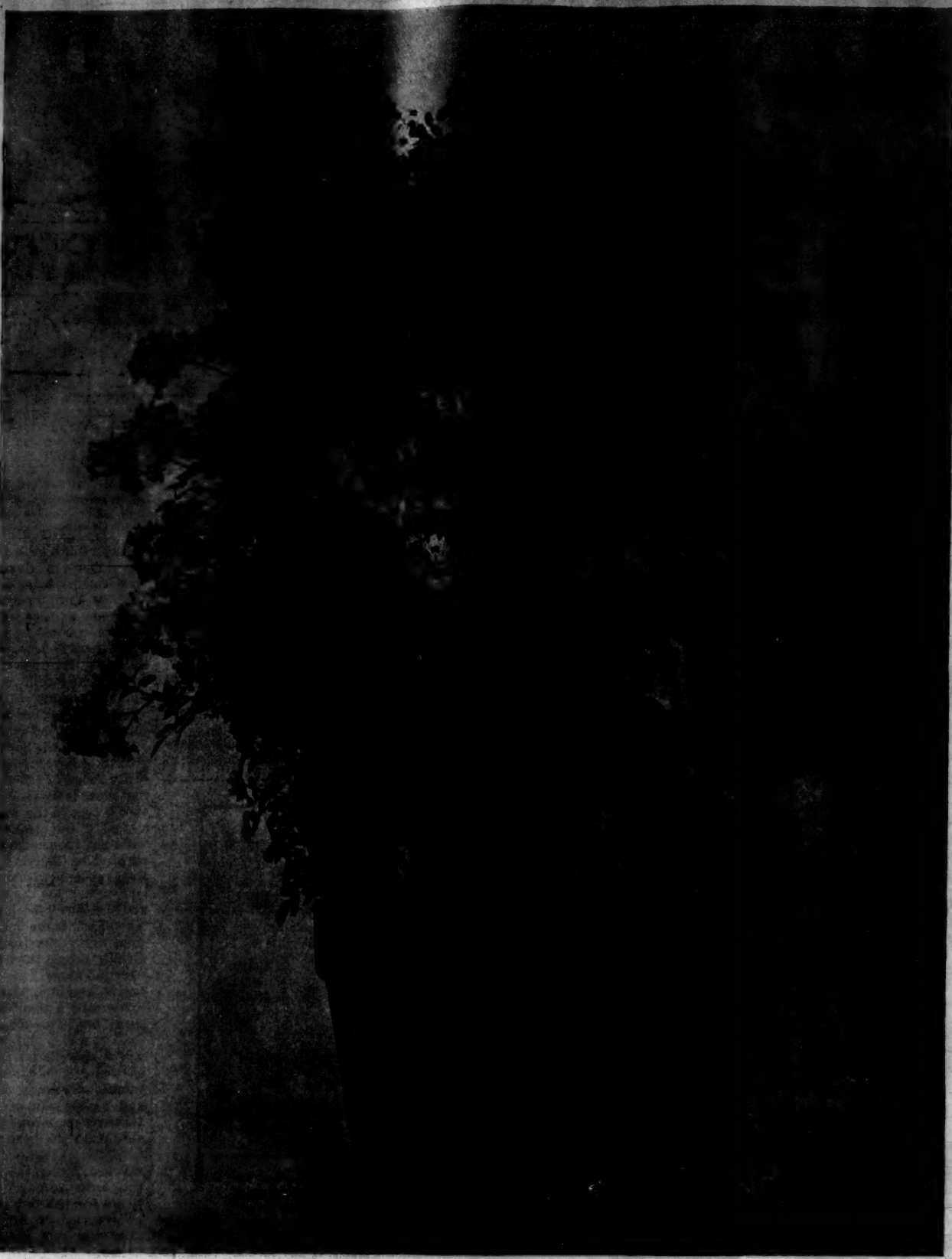
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## NEW SEEDLING, "SIWATHA."

As exhibited at the Massachusetts Horticultural Society by M. H. Walsh, Woods Hole, Mass.

## Agricultural.

## Hay in Over Supply.

The increase of receipts at leading Eastern markets seems to be owing to the raising of the embargo on hay by several railroads, thus permitting liberal shipments. The large and sudden increase indicates plenty of hay is waiting to be sold whenever a chance offers. With the opening of the season a little later in the spring larger arrivals are to be expected from Canada and intermediate points. Dealers generally consider the outlook poor so far as concerns prices. The recent tendency has been in the downward direction except as temporarily affected by embargoes.

Rye straw has been working lower and suffered a serious decline last week. Clover hay, as all through the season, is scarce and selling relatively higher than other grades. Considerable clover hay may come from Canada with the opening of the season. The best grades of all kinds are still in fairly good demand and suffer less decline than the lower grades. It is estimated that about two-fifths of the commercial hay crop remains to be shipped.

The following shows the highest prices for hay as quoted for the Hay Trade Journal in the markets mentioned: Boston \$17, New York \$17, Jersey City \$17, Brooklyn \$16.50, Philadelphia \$15, Pittsburgh \$15.50, Buffalo \$15.50, Montreal \$15.25, Nashville \$14.25, Baltimore \$15.50, Richmond \$15.50, New Orleans \$16.50, Chicago \$15.50, Kansas City \$16, Minneapolis \$15.50, St. Paul \$15.50, Cincinnati \$15, St. Louis \$15.

## Southern Truck.

Florida strawberries are plenty and cheaper, and the demand good, although the quality is nothing extra.

The potato region in Florida centres around Hastings, where the acreage last year was estimated at 2700 acres, and will be larger this year. One grower reports a net of \$3000 for his potatoes, and the value of the crop more than paid the price of his farm bought the previous year.

The truck growers in central Florida are now feeling more hopeful, the crops replanted after the freeze promising a good outcome. Replanted lettuce is expected to be ready for market in a fortnight.

Florida fruit and vegetable shippers are interested in the results obtained by a new device in refrigerator cars. Machinery attached to the axle of the car maintains a circulation of cold air and removes the surplus moisture. It is claimed that shipments travel long distances in good condition with a moderate amount of ice.

## Maine Seed Potatoes.

While there are nearly fifty distinct varieties of potatoes grown in Aroostook County, the demand is largely confined to about half of this number, among which the most important are: Early Rose, Early Northern, Early New Queen, Early Fortune, Early Six Weeks, Early Harvest, Early Ohio, Early Bovee, Russian Bagley, Irish Cobbler, White Elephant, Green Mountain, Aroostook Prize, Bliss Triumph or Red Bliss, Prize of South, Junior Prize or White Bliss, George's Extra Early, Delaware, Beauty of Hebron, Dakota Red, Gemma, Gem of Aroostook, K. E. Early, Bull Rose, Globe of Maine and Aroostook Bumper. There are, also, new varieties being introduced nearly every season, so different sorts are necessary to meet the conditions and favor of the different States, and no product is more affected or benefited by the introduction of new seed than the potato crop. Commencing with December,

the seed commences to move South, and the potatoes are then thoroughly hand-sorted, carefully weighed in sacks containing 120 or 135 pounds, plainly stenciled, strongly sewed and loaded into warm cars, and forwarded often by the railroad to Texas, Louisiana and Florida; followed later by those for Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina and so on, gradually north as the season advances, for North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York and all of the New England States.

## Literature.

One may be always sure of a good novel from the pen of W. E. Norris, and in "Barham of Beltana" by this favorite author, we have a story that is quickly effective without indulging in dramatic extravagance. The hero is a self-made man of Tasmania whose father had been a convict, and being a rich business man of the city of Hobart, sends his daughter to England to be educated. She returns to her Colonial home with new ideas, and with a warm school-girl friendship for the daughter of an English family of distinction though of decayed fortune. When the tale opens she is awaiting the return of her brother who was an officer in the Tasmanian Contingent during the Boer war. He is a great contrast to his self-assertive father, who is somewhat ashamed of his origin, and is a modest but brave young man who is a gentleman by instinct if not by birth. His sister is less retiring in disposition and she induces her father to take the family abroad, her object being to bring about a union between her brother and her former English chum, who has a brother with as few expectations in a worldly way as herself. How these couples are brought together and how the two fathers clash in their intercourse, and how an eccentric aunt, who dwells in a so-called haunted house, interferes successfully in directing the course of true love, it would not be fair to the prospective readers to set forth in detail. Suffice it to say, that the narrative reaches an eminently happy conclusion. The characters are few in number, but they are exceedingly well drawn, and the blunt individuality of old Mr. Barham is skillfully contrasted with the dignified reserve of an old aristocrat, while the two young damsels of the story show in a decided manner the difference in their social training. The book is a restful one, for though it is not without the shadow of a crime, it contains no harrowing sensational incidents. It is just the one to entertain during a quiet hour after the cares that infect the day have departed. (New York: Longmans, Green & Co. Price, \$1.50.)

None of the historical novels that have come under our observation have excelled in dramatic vigor and vitality "Return," by Alice MacGowan and Grace MacGowan Cooke. The opening chapter arrests attention at once. It is full of picturesque movement and it illustrates fully the social customs and manners of the Colonial days of South Carolina and Georgia a hundred and fifty years ago. Diana Charters, the heroine, is the belle of Charleston, or Charleston, as it is now called, and at the beginning of the tale she is proud and overbearing and has broken many masculine hearts in the province celebrated for its aristocratic exclusiveness. She is fitted at the altar's foot in all her bridal array and she is obliged to leave the church without the appearance of the bridegroom, deserted by her fashionable associates, but comforted by one of her own sex with good blood

in her veins, but apparently in humble circumstances. The haughty damsel, with her only friend, goes to Savannah, to avoid the sneers of the acquaintances she has snubbed in her own home, and finds friends in Georgia in General Oglethorpe and an eccentric cousin, called the Silent Lady, for the reason that she foresees speech because a man quarreled with her and parted from her in anger. The shrewish Diana finds a true lover and husband at last in Robert Marshall, of an historic Virginia family. Hardly less prominent in a strongly individualized group of characters is Lit, a girl who believes herself half Indian. She is lacking in education and social training. Her loyalty to the woman she protects is of the good old-fashioned kind that is not found in artificial society. The love stories of these two attractive maidens are skillfully interwoven in the narrative, which has plenty of relevant incident connected with the times when Indians and Spaniards figured more or less in Southern colonial life. The title of the book takes its name from a child, who plays no unimportant part in this charming novel, which has distinction of style as well as captivating interest. It rehabilitates the past with rare truthfulness, and is at once romantic and realistic. The accomplished authors were apparently fairly in love with their work, for they speak from the heart to the heart in no perfunctory fashion. The illustrations, by G. D. Williams, are of an artistically appropriate character. (Boston: L. C. Page & Co. Price, \$1.50.)

## Popular Science.

The latest novelty in photographic discovery is the most puzzling of all, as it shows some effect of gravitation on photographic action. It was recently announced at Bale, Switzerland, by G. W. A. Kahlbaum. After other experiments—some of them proving that the density of the metals, except that of sodium, is decreased instead of increased at very high pressures—he placed a sensitive plate, film upward, in a box lined with black paper, and over the film he laid in succession a strip of paraffined paper, pieces of cardboard and of sheet metal, then a reverse of this arrangement, with a photographic plate on top. The metals were aluminum, iron, zinc and lead. After several days a distinct photographic action was seen on the film below the metal, but hardly any on that above the metal, the effect being reversed in the case of zinc. Several plates in a photographic plate were affected. Gravity seemed to play some mysterious part, yet the centrifugal force of a rotation of 2700 times a minute in a special apparatus did not increase the action on the outer plate.

Though the efficacy of cannon-firing for breaking up hail clouds has been questioned, statistics are claimed to show marked reduction in damage to the vineyards of Southern Europe since 1900. Even lightning and thunder have been suppressed in the protected area.

Both Roentgen and radium rays have given Dr. M. Kericke a marked action on plants. Seedlings were retarded and eventually ceased growing, but in some cases revived after an interval. Germination of bean and turnip seeds was accelerated at first, beans ceasing to develop after a time.

The intense heat of the electric arc is not the highest produced in the workshop. Probably the highest temperature yet attained is that of A. G. Himmler, a Portuguese, whose method consists in concentrating sunlight, and who by this means readily volatilizes every known substance. In his St. Louis experiments at the World's Fair, glass lenses were used to throw the rays on a single point.

Experiments by green rays have been reported in some countries and in some cases, a French chemist has been led to investigate, taking up especially the poisoning of five persons near Lyons by green gases from a certain bakery. Intoxication with green gas—and not the ma-

terials of the tar—proved to be the cause of the poisoning. The exact nature of the gas was not determined, but it seemed to be associated with fermentation and a peculiar taste and odor.

The new illuminating gas of blue, an Augsburg chemist, is prepared in a special apparatus from the residue of petroleum and gas, with very portability in cylinders and tanks. The gas gives a brilliant light for streets or public buildings, and it has the advantage of being not easily exploded.

The potato imported in recent years from Uruguay in Europe has been regarded as only fit for feeding to cattle. In his cultivation experiments at Vienna, however, M. Labergerie has succeeded by persistent selection in producing several improved varieties, and in raising about forty tons to the acre of potatoes fit for table use. The plant flourishes in most places, a peculiarity being the production of both under ground and aerial tubers.

The speed table of animals of Mr. Thomson Soton, as calculated from actual times by stop-watch, credits the greyhound with thirty-four miles an hour, the race horse with thirty-two, the American pronghorn antelope with thirty, the American "jack" rabbit with twenty-eight, the common fox with twenty-six, the English foxhound with twenty-two and the American grey wolf with twenty. A man's best speed is fourteen miles an hour, the ordinary runners being twelve.

In considering that the planets produce tides in the sun's atmosphere, M. Lucie Anceux classifies such tides as binary, ternary and quaternary, according to the number of planets acting together in opposition or conjunction. The ternary tide, due to the combined action of Jupiter, Venus and the earth, is supposed to be the most important factor in regulating the appearance of spots, and a curve showing the fluctuations in the strength of this tide, as calculated from the planetary positions, agrees fairly well with sun-spot curve for the years 1891 to 1905. This ternary tide has a period of eleven years, its variations being due to planetary eccentricities, chiefly to those of Jupiter.

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The By-Laws of the Club, giving full rules to be followed in securing registration and transfers, mailed free on application.

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## Poultry.

## Poultry on the Farm.

In a previous article I have written that I have found a greater increase and a greater net profit in the sale of chickens and old fowl than from eggs, and I propose now to tell how it has been done, and may be done again by the farmer who has abundant space for them, or by the clerk or mechanic who has not room to keep or time to take care of a large flock.

And done it has been without the aid of incubators or brooders; without buying or selling fancy stock for breeding purposes, and even without attempting to raise or brood chickens out of season to sell to those who care not what prices they pay for them. I do not undervalue the use of either of these methods. The incubators have been so improved now that they will hatch out as large a percentage of the fertile eggs as can be hatched under the hens, and they can be reared in the brooder with but little if any more care than when the hens are used, and with less vexation of spirit. I know men who have made handsome incomes by selling fancy fowl for breeding, and others who find a good profit in growing chickens in midwinter under glass in houses artificially warmed, but all these require an investment of capital that many are not able and others are not willing to put into the business.

## STARTING RIGHT.

Two things are necessary to begin with. A flock large or small of good hens, and a house or houses that can be kept comfortably warm for them in winter, and that will be always clean and free from vermin. Add to this yards for the fowl and for chickens when they are to be fattened, coups and cages in which cats, rats and other enemies of the little chickens cannot reach them, and a variety of good food, and success is almost certain.

## GOOD BREEDS.

I have said a flock of good hens without specifying any particular breed. I would rather say the Mediterranean breeds, because they are so small that the old fowl are in good demand as poultry, and because they are usually not good sitters or good mothers. The American breeds, the Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes and Rhode Island Reds can be made good brooder chickens at two to four pounds to the pair, roasting chickens at four to six pounds each, or are good, plump fowl at eighteen months old. They are also plenty enough now so that one may procure a flock uniform in color, shape and size, without paying the high prices that are asked for the birds that are prize winners at the poultry shows. And prize winners at the poultry shows are in the matter of having poultry uniform in size and shape when dressed for market is an important one, as such a lot sells at better prices than a lot which looks as if it were made up of the odds and ends that had been left over after the good birds had been taken out. A lot of all of one breed also fatten more evenly than a mixed lot in which the larger and stronger birds do not allow the weaker ones to get enough to eat.

The Brahmas and the Buff Cochins also make good old fowl and roasting chickens, but as broilers they are apt to have too much bone and too little meat to suit those who are willing to pay liberally for this class of poultry.

With warm houses and liberal feeding pellets of any of the breeds named hatched in April or May can be made to lay nearly all winter when eggs are at their highest prices, and will usually be ready to sit in March or April, yet it is a good plan to keep over winter a few hens that have proved good mothers the previous season, as they are likely to become broody earlier than the pullets.

## IN HATCHING SEASON.

It is well, when possible, to set two or three at a time and to examine the eggs at the end of a week or ten days, taking out all that do not show on holding up to the light the blood spot that is the embryo chicken. Often with the early settings there will be enough of these infertile eggs to allow the eggs to be put one or two hours out of three and a new lot of eggs can be given to the others.

Before setting the hens see that each nest is in a box that is free from lice or mites. Make the nests of clean material and scatter a handful of sulphur or fine-cut tobacco, or even of onion skins among them, as all of this are repellent of lice, and dust the hen with pyrethrum, sometimes called insect powder. The best way to do this is to hold her up by the legs, and lift it down among her feathers, rubbing also a little on the head and under the wings. Put the nests away from other fowl that might disturb them.

## MANAGEMENT OF SITTERS.

They should be fed only whole corn while sitting and have fresh water every day. It would be well if there was a coop in front of each nest into which the hen could come only when she pleased and go back only to her own nest, but if this cannot be done she should be fed every day and go back after a half hour or so. She should also have a box of dry earth to wallow in if she wishes. After the eighteenth day do not mind if she does not come out.

I have known those who have not as many broody hens as they wanted to take the chickens all away from the hen, and put another clutch of eggs under her, bringing the chickens up without a hen by taking care that they were in a warm place under a light blanket at night, and giving them access to the ground or floor, covered with sand and straw, in the sunshine during the day. Usually in a flock there are broody hens enough by the time the first lot hatches out.

Early in the season when it is cold from nine to eleven eggs is enough to put under a hen of ordinary size, while later in the season she may cover from thirteen to seventeen. (Why is it that every one naturally thinks of an odd number of eggs as the proper thing to put under a hen? Is it a relic of the old superstition that "there's luck in odd numbers"?)

THE LITTLE CHICKENS.  
Need no food until from twenty-four to thirty-six hours after they come from the shell, and then a warm mash of equal parts of wheat bran and corn meal may be given five or six times a day, making sure that it is sweet and fresh each time, and when a week old alternating with a little cracked corn or wheat. A spoonful of fine charcoal to the quart of mash is a help as a safeguard from bowel trouble, and they should have access to clean sand or fine gravel every day. A little salt should be put in the mash each time.

Using the coops and wire cages to keep them from straying they should be moved every day to clean ground and fresh grass, and should have fresh water several times a day. When it rains so that they are sheltered, and if the sun is very hot put a cloth over the cage that they may have

shade, but they need sunshine even when reared in a warm brooder house.

## BY MANAGING

In this way I have been able more than once to go through the entire season without losing a single chicken from disease and few from any cause, both on the farm and in the village. The directions some give for feeding hard boiled eggs, soaked bread, rolled oats or oatmeal I have no use for, though I do not know that the infertile eggs that have been ten days under the hen can be put to a better use, for although they are not spoiled they are too stale for those who are accustomed to eat new laid eggs.

When the chickens are two or three weeks old they need not be fed so often, and soon three times a day will be enough, but the directions for care later on must be reserved for another article as this is already too long.

M. F. AMES.

## Active Egg Markets.

Receipts of eggs continue very large, much in excess of the corresponding time last year, but demand is extremely good and the egg dealers and commission men have been doing a tremendous business. The price is so low that the public is buying freely. Fancy nearby stock brings 20 to 21 cents, with Western 17 to 18 cents and Southern a little lower than Western. Very few duck eggs are in the market and more could be sold if at hand, the price being 30 cents. Goose eggs bring 65 cents per dozen.

Large shipments of Western eggs are arriving at Boston. Some dealers are taking storage eggs, believing that eggs shipped the last of March are fully as good for storage as April eggs and as cheap or cheaper. The local demand for fresh eggs for family use is reported very large.

## Horticultural.

## The Value of Dwarf Trees.

Prof. F. A. Waugh, horticulturist of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, was the speaker, Feb. 11, at the weekly lecture in the Horticultural Hall course in Boston. Professor Waugh's subject was "Dwarf Fruit Trees: Their Use, Propagation and Management," and he spoke in part as follows:

"We may as well say at once that dwarf fruit trees are not very promising from a commercial point of view. They will not in any way rival standard trees for large orchards. I am inclined to believe that certain fine dessert varieties can be grown on dwarf trees for fancy trade where large prices may be secured.

"Dwarf trees are of value for interplanting in an orchard of standard trees. They come into bearing much earlier than standard trees, and can be cut out at any time when the large trees require the entire space. Any one who wishes to keep a large collection of apples, pears or plums, or who wishes to test new varieties, will find dwarf trees very desirable. They occupy much less ground, and they bring the new varieties into bearing at a much earlier time. Any one who wishes to grow a fine specimen for exhibition will find dwarf trees even more useful. As a rule, to which I do not know any exceptions, the finest specimens of apples, pears, peaches and plums can be grown on dwarf fruit trees. The greatest value of dwarf fruit trees, however, lies in their adaptability to the needs of small landowners. A large and increasing proportion of our population now live in a suburban life. They are neither on the farms nor yet in the city. Such persons have only small grounds under cultivation, and cannot grow many large trees.

"Dwarf trees are propagated by the usual methods of budding and grafting. They are more commonly budded than grafted, although whip grafting, side grafting, or veneer grafting may be successfully practiced with apples, or even with pears. In either case it is largely a matter of convenience. There is no difference in the tree after it has grown. A budded tree is just as good as a grafted tree and vice versa. The principal problem in the propagation of dwarf fruit trees is the choice of suitable stocks. Apples are usually dwarfed by propagating them on Paradise stock. Paradise is simply a very dwarf apple which is largely grown from layers. The young trees are cut off near the ground and are encouraged to throw up sprouts. These are covered over with earth and when one or two years old the stools are taken up and divided. These Paradise stocks come from France, where this work is done chiefly. The Doucin stock also is used to some extent for dwarfing apples. It produces a tree midway between the very dwarf on Paradise and the ordinary standard form. Doucin stocks come also from France and are grown in the same way as Paradise stock.

"Pears are practically always budded on quince stocks for dwarfing. The quince most used for this is Angers, which comes from France. A few varieties of pears will not form good unions on quince roots. Such varieties are 'double-worked.' The quince root is budded with some variety, as Anjou, which grows well upon it. After this pear cion has grown one year the refractory variety, say Seckel or Dana's Hovey, is budded on the Anjou, upon which it makes a good union. The completed tree, as it is planted in the orchard, then consists of three parts—the pear top of the desired variety, the quince root, and the very short section of some other pear whose sole office is to unite the two incongenial neighbors.

"Peaches and nectarines are dwarfed by working them on plum roots. They will grow fairly well on almost any good plum root."

## Apples in Full Supply.

Apples have been coming in rather freely the past week and the market has rather more than can be readily handled at present prices. There is, however, no decline in choice lots, but dealers who have a large quantity of No. 3 or ordinary fruit seem inclined to work it off at a little lower price. Some lots are reported as low as 75 cents per barrel for standard varieties; the range is from that up to \$3.25 for fancy lots, with some special varieties like Northern Spies and Kings selling, if choice, at \$2 to \$4. Not many Baldwins, Russets and Greenings bring over \$2, and a great many sell between \$1.50 and \$2. The Produce Exchange quotes only \$1.50 for the general run of Maine Baldwins.

The export market is reported rather weak with prices showing a slight decline. Cables assert only finest fruit wanted and demand not equal to supply. Shipments last week show a decrease from the previous week but an increase over the corresponding week of last year.

Farmers find apples rotting fast these warm days and seem anxious to ship what



FIRST PRIZE PARTRIDGE WYANDOTTE COCKEREL  
At Madison Square Garden, New York, 1903. Owned and exhibited by E. G. Wyckoff, Ithaca, N. Y.

ever supplies they have left. Russets are in rather better demand than other kinds if of first quality, as shipments of these to English markets have taken very well, causing some demand from exporters. The general run of apples in foreign markets has met with rather poor reception the past two weeks, fancy Russets doing better than anything else.

The Ontario fruit growers have asked the Canadian Department of Agriculture for a grant to aid in establishing a system of co-operation in packing and shipping fruit and the appointment of an expert to assist packers and shippers.

A bill has been introduced in the Canadian legislature providing for uniform apple boxes for the export trade. The legal box will contain a bushel of apples, or forty pounds weight. The project meets with some opposition on the ground that different markets call for different sizes of boxes. Speculative apple buying is reported from New York State, one correspondent reporting probably five thousand barrels of cold-stored and cellar-stored fruit bought apparently for the export trade within the past few weeks.

The apples from common storage through New York State seem to be mostly out of the way, although a few large lots are reported unsold. The cold storage men will now have a better chance and as the amount put away is estimated as considerably less than that of last year, they may expect to come out in better shape. The cold storage deal is likely to prove profitable for those who bought at low prices prevailing early in the harvest season.

The total apple shipments from all ports for the week ended March 25 were 45,454 barrels, including 6225 barrels from Boston, 22,688 barrels from New York, 11,865 barrels from Portland, Me., 3645 barrels from St. John, and 2011 from Halifax. The shipments included 26,140 barrels for Liverpool, 5763 barrels for London, 7492 barrels for Glasgow and 6081 barrels for various ports. For the same week last year the shipments were 26,311 barrels, against 27,068 barrels for the same week in 1903. The total shipments thus far for this season have been 2,767,445 barrels, including 647,336 barrels from Boston, 301,731 barrels from New York, 585,406 barrels from Portland, Me., 307,681 barrels from Montreal, 335,781 barrels from Halifax, 15,914 barrels from St. John, N. B., 8800 barrels from Wolfville, N. S., and 24,108 barrels from Annapolis, N. S. The shipments for the same time last season

were 3,382,327 barrels; in 1903, 2,423,302 barrels.

Maynard & Child: "Steamer Saxonia landed at Liverpool five thousand barrels, demand not active. Prices have declined twenty-four to thirty-six cents all round."

Settling by Tree Owners.  
The old high-headed orchards are out of date. Low-headed trees are easier to spray, easier to harvest and prune and do not catch the winds.—H. W. Collingwood, New Jersey.

The farmer who has an orchard which will produce a surplus of apples of one kind need never worry about a market. The buyer will come to him and will pay a good price, as there will be an object in handling fruit from such an orchard.—A. J. Gully, Tolland County, Ct.

In comparing much with cultivation in orchards, I prefer cultivation. The trees grow faster and seem more healthy. The fruit is more plentiful, larger and better colored. Of course mulching is better than no treatment of any kind. Hogs are good in the orchard. We pasture thirty of them in one plot, among a group of Baldwins and Gravensteins, and the results are plainly evident. The growth is rich and rank and the crop abundant. Adjoining lots, where no hogs were kept, appear sleek and yellow in comparison.—Prof. H. W. Manson, Kennebec County, Me.

Horticultural leaders are endeavoring to reduce the number of commercial apples grown in Canada to ten or less. The fair is urged to offer prizes for only a few kinds and nurseries are urged to grow and sell fewer varieties.—A. McNeill, Ottawa, Ont.

S. Denison Goodrich, a farmer living near Portland, Me., was out with plow and harrow March 22, filled the soil and before the setting of the sun had a half acre of ground planted with onions, radish, lettuce, potatoes and peas.

—The Boston Flower Show, March 23-24, was one of the best ever held. The same of the exhibits spread in all directions and during the last days the rooms were crowded with visitors. The show has been a remarkable success from every point of view, the exhibits being especially notable for quality, and the American Rose Society, which joined with the Massachusetts Horticultural Society in this exhibition, will come to Boston again next year. The net receipts were something more than \$1000, although the society made no effort to make money on the exhibition. Two of the exhibitors who had special reason to feel proud were Col. Charles F. of South Framingham, whose gardener, George Melvin, carried off first prize in every one of the hybrid

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# MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN

TELEPHONE NO. 3707 MAIN.

Rockefeller is traveling a rocky road these days.

Secretary Hay is making health while the sun shines.

All the Boston firemen are on the water wagon now.

John L. is still good at a blow. The pen is mightier than the fist.

There was never before such a looking of gift horses in the mouth.

Why don't someone throw kerosene oil on the troubled waters?

Trust on trust ever is the watchword of many of our multi-millionaires.

The Panama canal commission did not cut up right in the opinion of our strenuous President.

If Vladivostok falls in six weeks, as is predicted, the poets will try and find a new rhyme.

Poulney Bigelow is making colored reflections, and, naturally, the man and the brother does not like 'em.

Carnegie is going to help the small colleges grow into big ones. He is a merry Andrew, but not in offensive sense.

And still another chapter in the story of Nance Patterson. It's getting to be as long as "The Three Musketeers," with all its sequels.

The streets are already having a spring cleaning, all on account of the spotted fever. This is taking the broom by the fore straw, as it were.

The mystery of the blowing up of the Maine has not been solved by the statement of Rousseau. His fairy tale of science does not go down.

Harry Nawn thinks there is plenty of room on the Common for the boys. Yes, but there is no room for shanties which are an offense to the eyes.

Some people think that squeezing bears can be found nearer Washington than Texas. However, Teddy pays his money and he takes his choice.

The man who invented the lapped-seamed boiler built "worse" than he knew, but he cannot be punished for his ignorance this side of grim Chiron's ferry.

She is not the proud Miss McBride, who was proud of her beauty, proud of her pride and proud of fifty things beside that wouldn't have borne dissection.

The Boston flower show was a dream of color, harmony, sweet perfume and music, the like of which has seldom if ever been presented at any such occasion.

George W. Cable says that "the private home is the public home." That's right, sing home, sweet home, and the boys will not want to stay out late at the club.

One would rather be a Mikado than a Car at the present time, in the light of the victory at Mukden. Beside, the ruler of Japan, we are told, is virtuous; and to be virtuous is to be happy. Begood!

George Bernard Shaw celebrates the negligee shirt. Well, there is nothing starched in his opinions generally. They are rather free and easy, if we may judge from some of his literary productions.

Russia in its contest with Japan seems to be as impotent as was old Spain in its struggle with our own country. You can never tell till you find out. At one time we thought that the Spanish navy would destroy some of our Atlantic seaports.

A new temporary station is to be built at a cost of \$300,000 by the New York Central Railroad while the new Grand Central Depot is being erected in New York city. This movement shows commendable enterprise even if it does cost a great deal of money.

Those Chicago professors who have bought a five-hundred-acre farm for experience, are likely to get plenty of it. Incidentally the discipline of hard work and open-air thinking ought to take the rough edge off some of the ideas these gentlemen have been giving out through the sensational press. If real farm life fails to instill common sense, the case is hopeless.

The culture of mushrooms in cellars has become quite a fad in Chicago, according to a newspaper of that city. The mushrooms are raised on shelves or banks arranged in tiers one above the other like the berths in sleeping-cars, thus producing a large area in a single cellar. The beds are planted in succession, giving a product throughout the season. The fad appears more sensible than its predecessors, the mulberry, the Belgian hare and the ginseng crazes. But special crops, however profitable in a small way, are easily overdone. When the public shows signs of becoming more interested in raising a product than in consuming it, the cautious grower will begin to go slow.

Sentiment at the Connecticut capital seems favorable to the new dormitory wanted for Storrs Agricultural College. President Stinson says there are 328 graduates and 904 students, including those taking special courses. Ninety per cent. of the graduates had gone into farming or become teachers of agriculture. President Stinson hints at the possibilities of a new horticultural building and a new library building as a gift from private benefactors. The college asks \$118,000 for general expenses, including \$65,000 for the dormitory, and the experiment station asks for \$1800. Opinion the country over appears agreeable to provide better facilities and equipment for agricultural schooling and research. The people and the lawmakers seem to realize at last that a good part of the present general prosperity is a direct result of better and more progressive farming. Trained farmers usually have considerable money to spend in one way or another, and all classes share the benefit.

Only a few of the old pasture lands are being deliberately planted to forest trees, yet thousands of acres are growing the woodland in a haphazard way by the simple process of let alone. The neglect to plant

at the proper time is a cause of serious loss. The land goes to bushes, with some birches, scattering poplars, scrub oaks a few hickories and chestnuts and a lot of savina, an uneven, bushy growth, not of much value. By the cheap, simple methods described in Mr. Greene's article, these lands might have become valuable young pine forests in a steadily improving investment, with a good income eventually in sight. Of course the gain is gradual and the planter may not live to harvest the lumber. But the value is there, and the owner will be very glad that it comprises something that will help his children, and from the start add to the substantial worth of the farm. Mr. Greene is one of the most practical and intelligent workers in the horticultural department of the Massachusetts Experiment Station, and his methods are based, it seems, on the best practice in up-to-date forestry.

The most pleasing and hopeful feature of the proposed new Boston milk contract is its evidence of a spirit of fair play and mutual consideration of the others' difficulties. Whatever the details, the main idea seems to be the establishment of something like a permanent basis of agreement. The producers say in substance to the contractors: "If you will protect us to a fair extent against loss on account of surplus milk, we will share some of the loss in case of a shortage, the loss or deduction to fall on the producers whose reduced shipments cause the shortage." The main cause for criticism lies in the rather narrow limit of the variation of shipments allowed without deduction or cutting the price. Not many farmers could easily keep the production within a range of sixteen per cent. or even twenty per cent. from the lowest. Even the retail milkmen, who must have a fairly regular supply, find themselves obliged to manage with great care and foresight; to raise foreign crops; feed a great deal of grain, and change cows often at considerable expense. For wholesale producers, these costly methods are out of the question, and, especially with small herds, the product would vary greatly. For several years to come, at least until the farmers become used to the new plan, the range of variation allowed should be at twenty-five to thirty-five per cent. Then by starting his basis of shipments low the producer might hope to keep within bounds during the seasons of heavy flow, and obtain full price for all his milk.

## Local Cold Storage for Fruit.

The storage system for fruit has come to a parting of the ways. The question is, whether the bulk of the cold-stored fruit will go to the large plants in the cities, or whether it will be put away in smaller houses right in the fruit-growing sections. Our correspondent, Madison Cooper, a prominent refrigerating engineer, shows some of the special advantages of nearby storage.

No doubt there is a distinct gain by transferring the fruit quickly from orchard to cold store room. Delay and the journey close-packed in a warm car often takes away much of the enduring power at the start. A great deal of summer fruit and windfalls could be saved until wanted if storage could be had right away.

For the smaller local markets the present system appears absurd. The apples are harvested and the windfalls, being short keepers, are rushed on the market at any price, demoralizing the whole trade at the outset. Then the speculative buyer appears, takes the No. 1 at a low price, bungs and rattles them over the railroad a hundred miles more or less, to the cold storehouse, built expensively on very valuable land, and operated by employees at city wages, and paying liberal profits to its owners. Then later in the season when the cellar-stored fruits are done for, back come some of the cold-stored apples or pears the same hundred miles over the rails to supply the markets right in the grower's own territory.

With a convenient storehouse, co-operative or not, the grower might have saved his perishable fruit and windfalls, and prolonged their selling season, greatly to his advantage. In selling this choice apples he could do without the speculator; and his fruit at just the right time and sell whenever he chose, probably disposing of quite a share of the crop to consumers within teaming distance with no freight, cartage, city storage and other special charges to come out.

The progress of the country storage idea will depend on whether these smaller plants will do as good work at less cost. The promoters of the brine system and perhaps others claim entire success in these directions. They deserve encouragement and more attention then they are now receiving from the experiment stations and growers' associations. Quite likely a revolution in the fruit business may result similar to that which took place in dairying when the central creameries were established. Something needed which will save the fruit, handle it at lowest cost, cut out surplus middlemen and keep the business in the country rather than deliver it into hands of speculators and storage monopolies.

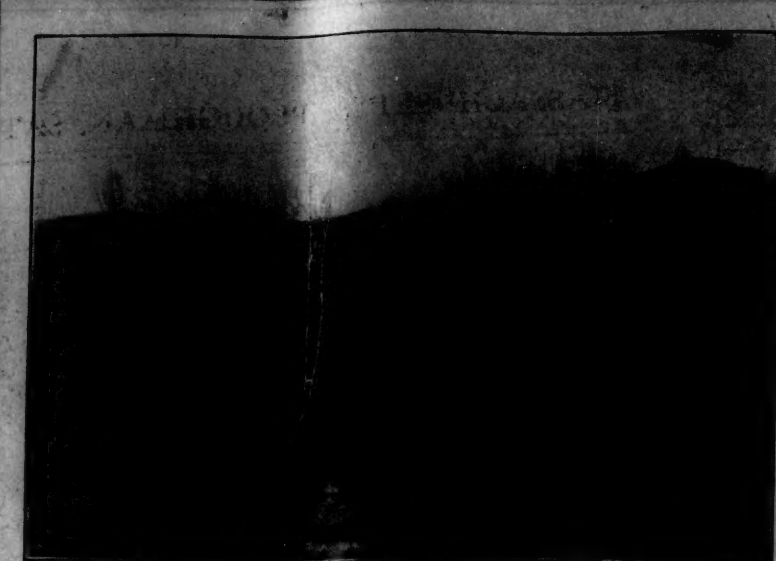
## The Land of the Grip.

It is well to know where diseases originate so that we may guard against them as much as possible, and, therefore, when we are assured that the grip or influenza has its birth in North China, including the battle ground of the present contest between the Russians and Japanese in the Far East, we have something added to our stock of knowledge that is of vital importance. This information comes from Dr. T. C. Allbutt, Regius professor of physics at Cambridge University, England.

He says that the grip is conveyed from its native soil by quick flying railway trains and steamships, and it is said that the building of the Trans-Caspian Railway and the opening of Bokhara was responsible for the wide-spread influenza epidemic which was so disastrous for the three years beginning in 1892.

It is to be hoped that with the return of peace, which now seems possible, that the transportation of the Russian troops home from North China will not cause a fresh outbreak of the grip that may spread from Europe to this country. The overcrowding that might occur in trying to carry thousands of men over a single-track railroad, would favor the spread of the disease which is one of the most insidious known to medical science. It takes as many forms as the Emersonian Brahma. It is even more fertile in means of attack than the Japanese strategists, and it holds on with a tenacity that defies comparison.

One might imagine it had human intelligence of a diabolical kind from the way it selects the most favorable points of man's anatomy to fight, and once it obtains an entrance into the physical system it never releases its hold until some overwhelming pressure has been brought to bear to expel it from its stronghold, and it even lays siege



PASTURE OVERGROWN WITH BIRCHES.  
The birches will answer as a nurse crop for more valuable trees.

to the reason in its desperate contest to retain possession. In spite of our severe winter we have luckily escaped here from its advances. New York, however, has been less fortunate, and there is no knowing what another season may bring forth in this vicinity. We should strenuously endeavor to prevent its long continuance if we cannot guard entirely against its approach. Dr. Allbutt is of the opinion—and he is an authority worthy attention—that a diet of milk and vegetables is the best one for the grip patient, for it tends greatly to lessen the length of his sufferings.

It is not stated why North China should be the cradle of influenza, but it is quite evident that Dr. Allbutt is in a position to convey accurate intelligence. As far as the world at large is concerned, no enemy in Manchuria is to be more dreaded than the grip.

## A True Patriot.

It has been proved that General Kuropatkin is something more than a brave soldier and an eminent army officer. By his recent action in announcing his willingness to serve under General Linovitch instead of commanding him he has shown that he is a true patriot.

He loves his country more than he does rank, and though he was treated cavalierly enough by the Czar and his advisers—particularly the latter—he has risen above all personal considerations and displayed a magnanimity that is worthy of a great man. It has probably been recognized in Russia by this time that the world's sympathy was with Kuropatkin in his misfortune, and that any attempt to inflict unmerited disgrace upon him would have made the Czar's government an object of supreme contempt. The rumor that Kuropatkin was to be court-martialed may have had no foundation in truth, and let us hope that such was the case, for a man on trial for simply doing his duty to the best of his ability, against overwhelming odds, would have been a spectacle that would have made people think that the empire of Nicholas had returned to the Tartar barbarism which has been said to exist under the skin of too many of the Russian people.

## First Spraying.

As half the battle against insect and fungus foes is to catch them before they do any harm, all sprayers are warned to prepare for their campaign in late winter. As the first move in a battle against many of them is a spraying in March or April, just as the buds are swelling, now is the time to get together materials, implements and experiment station bulletins containing receipts and directions for making and using insecticides and fungicides. In March the trees are examined for San Jose scale, and if found infested, treated to the lime-sulphur wash. "Cankers" of pear and apple trees must be cut out and the places painted, as they are sources of certain fruit decay. Fire-blight of pear and black-knot of plum and cherry needs to be pruned and burnt. The diseased canes of blackberries and raspberries can be cut out more easily now than when the spring work is pressing. Be sure and burn them. The burrows of borers are easy to find now, and a flexible wire run into them will kill the insects.

Then just as the oars are swelling comes the first application of a combination of Bordeaux mixture with some arsenite to help control the spread and ravages of the scale and bud moth of the apple and pear; the leaf curl, rot, scab, shot-hole fungus and bud moth of the peach; the brown rot and plum pockets of the plum; the quince leaf spot, and the rot and canker on the cherry.

As this article is merely a reminder to draw to your memory the ravages of last year, so that you will take the necessary preparatory steps in time. No formulas are given, but any good bulletin gives these and full directions for making and applying, so that such would be superfluous.

Massachusetts. L. R. ADAMS.

## Planting Worn-Out Pastures to Forest.

(Continued from last week.)

If one does not live where he can easily collect the pine seed he may be able to collect the seedlings of the pine as well as other valuable species in the woods. Where this is impossible they can be bought from some overgrown specialist. White pine costs about \$3 per hundred, sometimes more and sometimes less, owing to the number one wishes to purchase and the general demand.

## IN PLANTING YOUNG TREES

the ground should be prepared by plowing, if possible. After this they may be set according to the plan one has worked out. If plowing is out of the question, the young trees may be planted with spade, dibble or grub hoe. The grub hoe is to be preferred in land that is full of stones, brush and rocks. Two or three men should easily plant from five hundred to one thousand seedlings per day. One man goes ahead and digs the holes, while another follows with the young seedlings in a pail of water or a basket of damp moss. A third man follows and does the planting, making sure that he follows close enough not to allow the roots to dry out in the hole. A small boy can easily handle the basket of pines, and can drop them as easily as a man. The illustration last week shows men planting on very high western land, but which was free enough from stumps and stones that it could be plowed. These trees were planted closer than was necessary for a commercial plantation, but in this way they will get the most benefit from crowding, having less light and drought trouble. Of course, on swampy lands, the trees

would have to be planted with a sharp spade. Two men are needed to work well. One opens up the hole while the other places the roots of the seedling as the first step on the soil and withdraws the spade. Some prefer to use a large dibble for this purpose. This tool should have a handle of at least four feet long. The point should be steel, at least two inches in diameter at the shank. The foot-rest should be about ten inches above the shank. With such a tool one can work in the worst kind brush land or in solid sod. The illustration last week shows a dibble of this kind.

## PLAN FOR PLANTING.

If the whole area is to be planted over or if there are no trees of any consequence on the land, one should have a plan for planting. What this will be depends somewhat on whether the planting is to be of one species or of two or more. Even if one wishes to grow a forest of white pine it is well to mix them with some fast-growing species that will at least make fuel when it has served the purpose of crowding the pine. A very good plan for a wood lot would be white pine 10x10 feet interplanted with maple, or if one lives near a box factory or a paper-pulp mill, pine interplanted with poplar. These interplanted trees serve the double purpose of crowding the pines and furnishing shade for them while the trees are young. The essential point is to see that they do not furnish too much shade. As soon as they have accomplished the purpose for which they have been planted they should gradually be thinned till only the pines remain.

Calling the interplanted trees the "Nurses" the plan would be:

P N P  
N N N  
P N P

Planting the pines ten by ten feet and the nurses in the intervals would require 435 pines and 1200 nurses per acre. Maples and poplars may be bought for from \$3 to \$10 per thousand or the poplars may readily be grown from cuttings placed where the trees are to remain. One advantage of the above plan, where the ground can be plowed, is that it allows for cultivation for a few years. Trees make a much better growth on cultivated and than they do on land that is not cultivated and a successful start often makes the difference between successful growth and the loss of a great many trees.

## PLANTING A PASTURE.

The plan one would use where the idea is to add nature in pastures where she had already made a start of white birches or nurses, would be somewhat different. Under such conditions one would plant the pines somewhat closer than under clear planting. Where this is not practicable one can dibble in oak and chestnut trees at intervals between the white pine to aid in the crowding when the pines have outgrown the birch. One of the illustrations shows an old pasture which has grown to white birch and which has been abandoned for a number of years as being worthless for the production of milk. White pine could easily be planted here, the birch furnishing an ideal nurse crop. One of the advantages that birch has as a nurse crop is that it never grows tall and will not when the forest is neglected, crowd out the pines by overtopping them.

After one has a crop of forest trees started it is a very easy matter to keep it full by a judicious use of the spade and dibble. In this work seeds and chance seedlings can be used to great advantage. During seed years the seeds should be gathered and each seedling coming up where it cannot make the most of its environment in growing should be moved to a more inviting place. The subsequent pruning and thinning depend much on the judgment of the owner. The rule is that the trees should have good tops and clean trunks.

GEORGE O. GREENE.

Massachusetts.

## A Grand Old Jersey.

The Jersey cow Grace of St. Francis, A. J. C. H. B. 10619, was dropped May 20, 1905. She was solid color, light grey with black points, and was bred by Mr. E. Bode of New Jersey.

One of the things that has always pleased me in connection with this great old cow was that while she was a record breaker and well-known prize winner, and an all-around good cow, her breeder was a poor colored man who had but a small herd of Jerseys. The reason that this pleases me is that it clearly demonstrates that men in moderate circumstances can breed as good cattle, if they only give the matter thought and attention, as the wealthy ones. She has a record of 26 pounds 11 ounces of butter in seven days, and a Babcock test of six per cent. while giving 33 pounds of milk in seven days.

Aside from being a good cow herself, she is the dam of a noted prize winner and champion cow at the New York State and Interstate fairs, Agnes of St. Francis, record 33 pounds. I have her and five of her female progeny, all of which are remarkable cows.

F. R. DAWLEY.

Oneadams County, N. Y.

There are dollars in wood lands. The price of fine lumber has advanced fifty per cent. in three years. The lumber crop should not be harvested until it is ripe. Trees have two periods of growth; the first period is slow, the second period fast. Pines can be made to succeed plants. Cut pine in reference to the seed year.—Philip Ayers, State Forester, Oneida, N. Y.

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For the week ending April 8, 1905.

Notes and Fat  
Cattle Sheep Suckers Hogs Veals

This week... 3890 5387 40 26,534 2286  
Last week... 3288 5015 30 19,302 2170  
One year ago... 3373 7248 100 19,434 2282  
Horses, 694.

Prices on Northern Cattle.

Beef—Extra, \$5.75@6.00; first quality, \$5.25@5.50; second quality, \$4.75@5.00; third quality, \$4.00@4.50; a few choice single pairs, \$6.00@6.50; some of the poorest bulls, etc., \$1.50@2.50. Western steers, \$4.75@5.00. Store cattle—Farrow cows, \$15@20; fancy milk cows, \$10@15; much culling, \$5@10; yearlings, \$10@15; two-year-olds, \$15@20; three-year-olds, \$20@25.

SHEEP—Per pound, live weight, \$3.00@4.00; extra, \$4.00@4.50; lambs, \$5.00@5.50.

FAT HOGS—Per pound, Western, \$4.50@5.00; live weight, \$4.00@4.50; retail, \$2.50@3.00; country dressed hogs, \$2.00@2.50.

VEAL CALVES—\$6.00@7.00; country lots, \$7.00@8.00.

CALF SKINS—16@18¢ per lb; dairy skins, 40¢@50¢.

TALLOW—Brighton, \$3.00@3.50; country lots, \$2.50@3.00.

FELTS—75¢@1.25¢.

Cattle, Sheep, Cattle, Sheep.

At Brighton, O. H. Forbush 11  
At Waterbury, J. H. Henry 15

At Waterbury, J. H. Henry 15  
At Waterbury, J. H. Henry 15

At Waterbury, J. H. Henry 15  
At Waterbury, J. H. Henry 15

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### BOSTON PRODUCE MARKET.

Wholesale Prices.

Produce, Fresh Killed.

Northern and Eastern.

Chickens, common to good.

Ducks, 10 to 12 lbs.

Pigeons, tame, choice, 10 to 12 lbs.

Pigeons, shot, 10 to 12 lbs.

Pigeons, common, 10 to 12 lbs.

Pigeons, extra, 10 to 12 lbs.

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### FLOR AND GRAIN

Flour—The market is quiet, slightly lower.

Wheat, clear and straight, 45¢ @ 50¢.

Wheat, mixed, 45¢ @ 50¢.

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## Our Homes.

## The Workbox.

**COLLAR AND DUFF CASE.**  
 Ribbon of any width may be used for making this case. Ribbon five or six inches wide in some pretty design is used. Procure one and one-half yards and divide in four equal lengths, two for outside and two for linings. Cut four pieces of cardboard wadding well sprinkled with sachet powder is based on the lining ribbon. Two straps of narrow ribbon are tacked on to hold collars and cuffs. When the cardboard are overhanded together, each side, then join top bottom and centre.

## A SIMPLE JACKET.

These little jackets are very convenient to slip on under a coat or to wear cool mornings and evenings.  
 Procure six ounces of Bear brand Germantown yarn, two No. 8 needles. Plain knitting.  
 Cast on 54 stitches, knit plain garter stitch till you have finished eleven inches, always slipping first stitch.  
 Then cast on 54 more stitches and on these 108 stitches knit nine inches.  
 Now bind off the extra 54 stitches and knit 18 inches on the original 54 stitches. Bind off.

Sew the original 54 stitches on to the extra 54 stitches cast on, to form an armhole.  
 Sew the "casting off" of the original 54 stitches to the casting off of the extra casting off, to form second armhole. Fasten with hooks and eyes, or ribbon. Crochet edge all round jacket for a finish. Forty-five stitches make a smaller size.

EVA M. NILES.

## Mrs. Stubbs on Appendicitis.

"It is surprising," said Stubbs to his wife one evening, "how many people Providence removes by means of appendicitis."

"Fudge!" said Mrs. Stubbs, "that is an impeachment of the Almighty."

"How so?" said Mrs. Stubbs meekly.

"Well now, my dear," said Mrs. Stubbs, "it is quite possible Moses may have made some mistakes in the Pentateuch, but not so many as Colonel Ingersoll would have us believe. Men are not naturally perfect; even you, my dear, have your soft spots."

"Well, how is it with the Fitz-Fitz?"

The rest of the name had escaped from Mrs. Stubbs' memory, but he was confident Mrs. Stubbs had Fitz blood in her veins because she has been giving him daily for nearly a quarter of a century.

"Never mind about the Fitzgeralds now, but they were really quite a prominent Hillside family, with few vulnerable spots in their armor," said Mrs. Stubbs.

Then continuing, "You see, Moses lived to be 120, and, as the Latin Vulgate puts it, 'his teeth were not moved.'"

"He was also very vigorous in other ways for such an elderly gentleman. It is reasonable to suppose that one who knew so well how to take care of himself could give some hints to others on health and diet. And this he has done quite well, it seems to me. Now really, Stubbs, a hop is not always a pleasant object to contemplate, say nothing about eating him. And then as to hard—when one thinks where very possibly it came from—its antecedents, you know, why I prefer butter every time."

"And then the methods of making fine flour—leaving out or grinding out the most nutritive part—thus giving the doctors and undertakers a big lift."

"Well, but how would you account for the numbers constantly taken down with this dread disease?" said Stubbs.

"Well, of course, one cannot be sure," said Mrs. Stubbs, "but you see, if one uses unwholesome articles of food day in and day out for years, it may bring on stomach troubles, and these very likely will culminate in appendicitis."

"And this is the reason you reject the articles above mentioned, and use butter for shortening, and entire wheat for bread?" said Stubbs.

"To be sure it is," said Mrs. Stubbs, "I much prefer dying of extreme old age than of being taken off by this disease now so prevalent."

"I am not sure but you are right," said Stubbs, "and now if you will give your receipt for entire wheat bread I will promise never to say a disparaging word of the Fitz family."

"Well, here it is," said Mrs. Stubbs:

Make the sponge of fine flour, using one pint of lukewarm water for each loaf desired. If four loaves are wanted, use one cup of melted butter to two quarts of water; add a tablespoonful of sugar and a cup of good yeast.

Let this sponge rise over night. In the morning, when very light, thicken sufficiently to mould over with entire wheat; let it rise again till very light, and then mould into loaves, greasing the tops with butter to prevent a thick crust forming. When loaves are nearly doubled in bulk, bake in a moderate oven.

HENRY J. VIER.

Sandisfield, Mass.

## The Diet for Rheumatism.

One-half of the world is rheumatic, the doctors tell us, and the only way for those who suffer to lighten their pain and worries is to observe a certain regimen. But which? How many prejudiced, erroneous, contradictory or superannuated ideas exist on this subject!

Often predisposed to it by heredity, the sufferer from rheumatism is the one who does not perfectly assimilate his food. Eating too much, or improper food, having regard to his sedentary indoor life, his nutrition is lessened. His arteries are loaded with quantities of organic waste and red blood which have failed to oxidize and are imperfectly eliminated by the kidneys and the skin. His blood is covered with drifting ice by urates and oxalates, in train to become crystallized in some part or other of the body. Hence a tendency to obesity, a disposition to chronic rheumatism, gall and bladder stones, gout, diabetes, neuralgia and skin eruptions, such as eczema. Falling exercise or work in the open air capable of giving a touch of the whip to the sluggish nutrition, the only course is to seek the remedy in some other direction, that is to say, by a course of diet which shall exclude foods likely to furnish poisons to tissues so inept at getting rid of them. The urates come from meat; the oxalates come mostly from vegetables.

It follows that the sufferers from rheumatism should eat little meat, and should prefer boiled meat to roast meat. The process of boiling has the effect of extracting from the muscular tissue in meat much of its hurtful properties. Naturally boiled the particles of these must not be eaten. White meats, so much recommended formerly for delicate stomachs and for convalescents, should be banished entirely from the menu. Professor Gentner has shown by analysis that such meats are extremely rich in albu-

men, acids and phosphorus. In this category are pigeon, veal, chicken, rabbit, kid, the fibrous and gelatinous parts of animals, i. e., feet, head, ear, etc.; also sweetbreads and calves' brains, game, pork and salted meats. In fine, eat as little meat as possible.

There are some vegetables also that are not a whit better, by reason of containing oxalic acid. Thus, sorrel, spinach, rhubarb, white horehound and French beans, radishes and broad beans. All others are allowable, including the tomato. On the other hand, cabbage, potatoes, carrots, turnips, lentils, peas, leeks, asparagus, water-cress, chloirey, corn salad and salad are harmless to the rheumatic.

Among fruits the most to be recommended are grapes, oranges, lemons, apples, pears and plums. It may be objected that the fruits named are acid. Yes, but not with oxalic, but other kinds of acid (tartaric, malic, citric) which possess the property when decomposed in the system of alkalizing "humors."

German doctors recommend lemons in cases of gout, rheumatism, and liver colic. This consists in imbibing within twelve to fifteen days the juices of two hundred to 250 fresh lemons. Grape cures also are good in certain diseases. Sweets and confectionary need form no part of the bill-of-fare. Their value is not much in any case. Sugar is a source of energy useless to persons condemned to sedentary life, and butter is positively harmful. Eggs, on the other hand, are excellent food. Pie-crust is allowable, but of bread only a limited quantity. Bread is almost as harmful as meat, as containing free phosphoric acid. As regards condiments, salt in very small quantity, vinegar, and lemon-juice are permissible.

Dr. Gentner, an eminent authority on the subject, is not favorable to the use of fish by rheumatic persons. In any case it should certainly be fresh, and not of the oily varieties. Carp, gudgeon, herring, trout, perch, pike, cod, skate, whiting, mullet, plaice, sole are of this class, while salmon, mackerel, turbot and chad belong to the fat fish. Avoid shell fish generally. Certain species of these give rise to eczema and skin complaints. The rheumatic subject should never imbibe alcohol in the form of stimulants. The beverage for him is water, which is excellent for purifying the blood and kidneys. Dr. Gentner allows older, light wines, and light beer in small quantity. He should avoid altogether aerated waters, especially those from the chalky sources. Milk is the natural food and diuretic of sufferers from this complaint. Tea and coffee are not harmful, but cocoa is, as containing oxalic acid.

With all these restrictions let not the ardent supposer that he is put on short commons. He has still left a fine scope for doing himself well if so inclined, and still be quit of his gout or his rheumatism. Possibly even he is to be envied his vegetarianism, which, according to those who have practiced it, tends to make spirits mild and pacific.—*Almanach Hachette, 1904.*

## Care of the Face.

The preservation of youth and beauty is much easier than is generally supposed, and the use of dangerous and injurious cosmetics quite unnecessary. External applications, while important, are not the whole thing. There are other considerations to be borne in mind. A doctor will tell you that he must get at the cause before he can prescribe a remedy for an illness, and so before you can improve your appearance you must try to discover a reason for your various defects.

A Frenchman has said, "The whole law of attraction lies in the skin." It is therefore plainly your duty to devote some time and attention to it. To begin with, you must remember that the skin is an important excretory organ, and that all impurities on the surface must be carefully removed before applying the most simple remedy. It should be thought of as a cover that must be kept fresh and aired.

Suppose you are out in the open air a great deal in the winter, and that the day begins with a walk, which stirs up the blood in your veins and brightens your eyes. Before taking the afternoon drive, apply with a very soft handkerchief a small quantity of fine cream, put on so carefully that it is invisible to the eye, but giving the face a fresh, moist look, like a child's. It also prevents the face from being lined or chapped by the cold. Upon returning home wet a piece of cambric with alcohol and pass it all over the face. It will remove the surface dust and the cream, which has done its duty, and will leave the skin sweet and clean underneath for the evening.

Before retiring for the night, wash the face in warm water, with castile soap, and then smear it lightly over with the cream. Work the cream gently in with your fingers, for, as the skin is only to a slight extent an absorbing organ, it is necessary to use a little perspiration by gently rubbing and massage. Solutions can hardly be absorbed at all by a sound, healthy skin. Apply under the eyes—along the tear duct—some lanoline cold cream, but do not rub. Leave it on all night. Place a little on the eyelids and eyebrows. It has a cooling effect on the eye and gives a full look to the lid, which is considered a mark of beauty, and makes the eye look large. To the eyebrows it gives that pencilled effect and prevents their spreading.

There is an excellent cream prepared with peroxide of hydrogen. The peroxide helps to whiten the skin and is healing and prevents the formation of blackheads, which are not only unsightly, but enlarge the pores, making the skin coarse and ugly.

A growth of dark supercilious hair either on the lip or face may be bleached so light a color by peroxide as to almost imperceptibly, and, unlike the many depilatories in the market, it is a safe and harmless method of making the growth invisible even if still there.

You should never lose your grip on beauty or youth any more than you do on life. The first sign of advancing years is when the face begins to sag; that is much worse than the fine lines that can be effaced, but you can prevent sagging if you try. Keep the muscles stiffened by splash-cold water on the face and by slapping the cheeks gently. Do not let any muscle fall into disuse. Try to look bright even when alone in your room, and when working, writing or reading do not let the mouth droop. Keep all the muscles alive during the waking hours, but through the night relax every inch of your body. Have plenty of soft pillows, not under your head, but make a nest of them so that every part of your body is supported and at rest. And winter or summer have your window open. If fresh air is necessary for delicate people with chest complaints, how much more necessary it is for those that are well and wish to keep so.

A dry, scaly skin is often caused by too much uric acid in the system; this may be remedied by taking lithia tablets (five

grains), one three times a day in a tumbler of water, either with your meals or between them.

A solution made with a teaspoonful of borie acid to a pint of distilled water may be dropped into the outer corner of the eye morning and evening, with a dropper.

This solution is cooling, and keeps the eyes clear and bright. Above all things, never be in a hurry. Hurry irritates the nerves, and nervousness is the deadliest enemy of health, beauty and happiness.

A warm bath at bedtime, followed by a gentle massage, is excellent for every one. Rest when you can. Lie down for an hour in the afternoon and try to sleep. If not, read a light and amusing book. The brain must have rest like any other part of the body.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

## Olive Oil Cure.

Sufferers from nerve disorders should try the olive oil cure, which is most highly recommended to those who have learned abroad to appreciate the addition of oils to salads.

The very best and purest olive oil must be obtained, and one teaspoonful of three times a day is the dose if the victim of neuralgia, anæmia or disordered nerves is in a hurry to be cured. Otherwise it is recommended that the oil taste should be cultivated by the addition of a very little to the salad taken once or twice a day, to which a dash of vinegar may be added, so that the disagreeable taste of the oil may be almost completely disguised. The patient should gradually lessen the vinegar and increase the oil, until it is so well liked that it can be taken pure. It is claimed for olive oil, just as it is for apples, that it keeps the liver in good working order, thus preventing rheumatism, rendering the complexion healthy and clear and also making the hair grow glossy and abundant.—*London Mail.*

## Domestic Hints.

## PEANUT CAKE.

Cream half a cupful of butter with a cupful of shredded coconut, add a cupful of sugar; next add a cupful of milk and it cupful of sifted flour, with a teaspoonful of baking powder. Beat the whole thoroughly and stir in a cupful of mashed or grated peanuts. Sprinkle some of the meats over the top just before the cake is put into the oven.

## SALMON BALLS.

Mix a cupful of mashed potatoes with a cupful of shredded salmon, season highly with salt, pepper and a third of a cupful of melted butter. Roll into balls, bake with a beaten egg and roll in fine cracker crumbs. Fry in hot lard and serve with mayonnaise dressing or a cream sauce.

## MUTTON BROTH.

A simple way of making this broth, which is good for delicate persons, is as follows: Take a fourth of a pound of mutton. Scraggy part of the neck is good for this purpose. Cut the meat into small pieces carefully, separating it from the fat. Add to the meat a half cupful of barley and a pint of water. When the boiling point is reached skim carefully. Let the soup simmer while you put the bones in a saucepan, adding a cup of cold water, and let them boil slowly for half an hour. Then strain the liquid around them over the meat and barley and cook the whole for two hours. Season to taste.

## REFRIGER.

Wash clean and boil half a peck of spinach; when well drained pound it in a mortar, rub it through a wire sieve, and, having placed the pulp in a small stewpan, with a pat of butter, a bit of sugar, a little pepper and salt, and a pinch of nutmeg, stir all over the fire until quite hot. Add to the meat and barley and cook the whole for two hours. Season to taste.

## Hints to Housekeepers.

Persons who have been brought up to dread arsenic in green wall-papers will hardly know what to do when they see the following article by a recent bulletin issued by the Department of Agriculture at Washington, describing a number of tests of wall-paper, furs, clothing, etc. It shows that while many papers do contain arsenic, hardly any have it in dangerous amounts, and that the arsenic in the wall-paper is not so dangerous as the arsenic in the furs and clothing. The article of apparel was vastly greater. While only four in 537 samples of wall-paper contained more than one-tenth of a grain to a square yard, a brown bear rug contained 18.90 grains of arsenic to a square yard. Stoppers, particularly black stockings, were found to contain arsenic in alarming quantities. Massachusetts is the only State in the Union that has a law regulating the use of arsenic in wall-paper, and this fixes the maximum amount at one-tenth of a grain to a square yard. The Washington experts recommend that the limit be fixed at five-tenths of a grain a square yard, a far more liberal allowance of this deadly poison.

Grease all the castors when the beds are taken down for spring cleaning; a bottle of sweet oil, and a stiff feather for applying the same, will work wonders in improving the castors of the beds. The Washington experts also advise "wax" of carpet. Oil bureau and other wheels, touch the door hinges with the moistifying feather, and also the springs and catches of windows. Yes, and that squeaky old pump. Oh, there is no end to the utility of a wet rag of oil when intelligently applied.

The useful moth ball is now being employed in suburban gardens to protect young squashes and cucumbers. A correspondent of Country Life in America writes that five cent's worth of moth balls drove all the beetles in his garden over "the garden professor's" garden of clearing.

The next day the cucumber's consciousness bothered him, the reader is glad to be informed, and he purchased five cents worth more for the professor's garden. This time the beetles fled before him.

A round piece of tin placed in a kettle where corn, chicken stew, or hominy is cooking will keep it from sticking.

To make oyster cocktails there are no hard and fast rules. About anything one likes, provided it is procurable, may go into the dressing. One may prefer a dominant note of tobacco, while another may prefer the horseradish or Worcestershire should be the prominent flavor, but with either there should be the proper amount of salt.

Miss Elizabeth Falconer of Louisville, Ky., has just perfected an invention which promises to revolutionize the facing of shoes by the people. The invention enables men or women to lace their shoes without stooping, and although it was not invented primarily for fat men—there are no fat women—it will be utilized as much by them as by the aged and infirm, for whose comfort it was wrought into the world. The invention is simple. One lace never leaves the shoe position, and pulling the top of it across the shoe pulling the bottom string loosens the shoe.

If oil is spilled on a carpet immediately scatter cornmeal over it, and the oil will be absorbed. Oil that has seeped into a carpet may be taken out by laying a piece of blotting paper over it and pressing with a hot flat-iron; repeat the operation, using a fresh piece of paper each time.

## Fashion Notes.

The draped and pointed bodice in a style better adapted to evening, or at least elaborate gowns, than to dress walking dresses. There are some who think that the pointed bodice looks very well in almost all materials. This style is often becoming to stout figures.

There are many new and beautiful soft silks in the stores. Some of them are almost as sheer and pliable as chiffon. The colors are charming. One of these silks, which resembles celadon somewhat, comes in a variety of lovely shades, invitingly striped or checked. A gown of shell pink silk had a shirred skirt trimmed with Valenciennes heading put on in a large diamond pattern, with the silk cut out beneath. In the centre of each diamond was an application of lace. A group of tucks above the hem gave body to the bottom of the skirt. The waist was rather too lavishly decorated with lace to match the simple and beautiful skirt, but the simple sleeves made up for this. They were quite original in design. A full shoulder puff extended about six inches down the arm, and was divided from the sleeve below by a band of lace insertion. The sleeves were cut in diamonds all around, and those were edged with the insertion.

A very simple gown of mignonette green tulle, a very soft and clinging fabric, had a skirt shirred in a deep dip yoke, the shirring heavily corded. Three groups of corded shirring near the foot of the skirt were divided by shirring much fuller than the skirt. The blouse was simply cut, and had a corded puff attaining the half-loose corage. A high girle accompanied the gown. The sleeves were corded and shirred in two puffs at the top, and were ruffled below.

The military openings are at their height just present, and it is even said in some shops that the choicest hats have already been sold. That Southern exodus which has created a fifth season has also created a demand for very early spring hats and gowns. Some very pretty simple toques and turbans suitable for traveling have been seen. The straw used for these are mostly rough weaves, of very coarse and loosely woven being a great favorite. A small turban in this straw was in several shades of green, and no trimming except simulated wings of the straw lined with green velvet.

Another very effective little turban was in rough gray straw, brilliantly finished, with small disks of bright red straw applied over the entire surface. The turban was trimmed on one side with a knot of gray velvet, a short curling gray ostrich feather, and an egret.

A very handsome small hat was in two tones of blue straw, one of thorough spiny varieties. There was a decided purple suggestion in one of the shades of blue, and the exquisite ostrich plume with which the turban was trimmed was blue on the upper part and mixed with lavender underneath. The combination was delectful.

Most of the new hats are extremely dashing. The object of the many turns and bends into which the turned-up brims are twisted seems to be to give the hat the most youthful and jaunty effect possible. So universal is this effect that elderly women and matrons with quiet tastes are buying bonnets instead of toques and hats. Among other dashing shapes, the so-called collar hat is conspicuous. The collar is merely a second brim attached to the crown, the space between the two brims giving an excuse for trimming. Sometimes the collar is made of tulle wired, or of roses or ribbon. A model of this kind was in black maline laid in regular folds on a transparent frame. The shape was a large round. The collar was of white maline, folded like the brim, and lined with a dark blue, like a veritable collar and ended in the back under a large chub of crushed pink and white roses.

Even the sailor shapes are made jaunty by a high bandeau in the back, which lifts the hat over the forehead. The tip-tilted hats are the same in effect as those seen in a while in daguerotypes of the 'sixties, when enormous chignons left little space on the head for any hat. The fashionable sailor has a flat brim and a wide crown. In some models the ribbon which encircles the crown catches up the brim on the back, and is continued in a series of loops and bows in the under brim. Other models have the back brim covered with roses or other blossoms. Wreaths or rather collars of massed roses are used to trim the sailors. One of this type was in natural straw, and had a collar of tiny yellow roses shading to pink, and a wide bandeau of a green taffeta ribbon was wound in and out of the garland of roses. The same ribbon trimmed the tilted back brim in a series of bows.

The small turbans are worn also for dressy hats. A dainty model was made of white maline covered with tiny orchids in pink and mauve. A small white ostrich feather and a white egrette trimmed one side.

The spring crop of parasols is very gay indeed. A parasol being one of the most becoming adjuncts of a toilette, a little extravagance is to be allowed. A great deal of the new parasols are of the new ones. Parasols in fine handkerchief linen, embroidered, and inset with exquisite lace, cost almost as much as a gown, and are some times worn. Very smart are the bright blue, blue, green and white taffeta parasols with animal heads carried on the handles. A red parasol has a parrot head in black wood, the head touched with bright colors and the eyes bright green glass. A blue taffeta has the head of a flamingo at the end of a stick, the long neck of the bird curving until the head touches the handle, forming a ring. Dogs' heads are favorite variations of the fashion.

A beautiful parasol in pale blue taffeta had a border of natural linen crash embroidered in French knots in pale blue. Edging the linen was a ruffled piece of silk about two inches wide. A charming pink parasol had a foundation of flowered Pampadour silk; the lower part being composed of white chiffon and lace with little disks of the Pampadour silk applied. Another pale pink parasol was made of taffeta and was trimmed with a wreath of narrow Valenciennes, with the silk cut out underneath. A white parasol was similarly trimmed. Another white taffeta was decorated with a running garland of lavender chenille embroidery, and ribbon and chenille flowers, tiny roses in pink, green and yellow.

The linen parasols are new, and will doubtless enjoy great popularity for a time. Heavy linen is used for the more modest sort, and they are embroidered in very open patterns or in padded embroidery, exactly like the linen gowns and wraps. The lighter models are made like lingerie waists, very much trimmed with lace and embroidery. Few of them are lined, and, although very pretty to look at, cannot be of much use in keeping the sun off. White parasols are rather ineffective in this regard, anyway. However, everything in linen seems to be the object of dressing just now. The latest thing is linen suits, to be worn with tailored linen gowns. These are in white and colors. Light suits increase the apparent size of the feet, and white linen ones will do this even more so soft cloth.

For simple gowns there is a revival of interest in the sailor waist. The plaited skirt and the sailor waist combine exquisitely, and the whole makes up an easy and yet slightly costume for the country or for informal wear. A blue linen gown with a plaited skirt and a sailor blouse had a shield and broad collar of white linen. A heavy white linen crash suit had the collar edged with green linen and had a green ombre embroidered on the shield. This style of gown is recommended for young girls.

Linen tailored suits are very masculine and severe. The most desirable model at present has a long coat very loose and baggy, with revers and collar of colored brocade, blue, mauve or green.

A novelty in linen is the three-quarter coat of all-over brocade applique. One of these seen recently was belted at the waist line and was fastened with large black velvet buttons. There was a touch of black velvet ribbon on the front of the blouse, and the gaudy cuffs were edged with velvet.—*N. Y. Evening Post.*

power. Supposing one has met wrong and injuries, that he has endeavored to give of his best; that he has accepted even such hard conditions as these without falling into irritation and morbidness. For one thing, it is a question whether, in the long run, we receive any discipline that we do not need; that we are not the better for accepting and endeavoring to take its lesson into the heart. Having once learned it, one does not need to learn it over again. That achievement, such as it is, is checked off for the rest of his life. Having learned it, the conditions that taught it will pass. Life is a succession of states that are due to a succession of choices.

"What's our state we must have made it once."

Now is it an exaggeration to say that infelicitous conditions are almost always due to some error—or series of errors—of judgment, which may result in temporary trials, to almost the degree that errors of intention might do.

For instance, one source of weakness and of infelicitous is often in the unwise outpouring of sympathy. Not that personal sympathy with the joys and sorrows of others is one of the expansions of the spiritual nature; one of the divine attributes of our lives. But sympathy is a most intense potency and there is sometimes the danger that in this intensity of feeling for another person's place one forgets his own. Emerson condemns this truth in his wonderful lines—lines often misquoted as well as misinterpreted—

"If I love him moment over-stay  
 Hatred's swift repulsion play."

Emerson there uses the "over stay" in the same sense, evidently, as "over-step,"—and for even the divine and angelic quality of love to overstep its own legitimate place, to exceed its due boundary line, is to render itself a force to distort the beautiful relations. Love and sympathy are the two essential things in life and still, he who gives them in an undue degree comes to pay the penalty and find that the gift which should have been power has degenerated into weakness. Because no one can live another's life for him. One may look on and see his friend in trial and long to give his life itself to save him,—but this is the weakness and not the power of true sympathy. But this lesson that the ardent temperament has to learn—the temperament all aflame with tenderness and emotional sympathy and tendency to self-sacrifice,—the lesson it has to learn is perhaps a bitter and painful one, yet none the less salutary. The essential point is this. Let not the process, however bitter and painful, leave one embittered, or even depressed. Accept the lesson; take its meaning into life that the same error shall not be repeated in the future, and then—let it pass. Go forth into the radiance of beauty and sweetness and joy. For Happiness is the divine thing in life and one must live in its atmosphere. One must forgive—even himself, which is sometimes much harder than it is to forgive others, even, and leaving those things that are behind, press onward to those before.

There can be little question but that this life, in its wholeness, is the experimental one. This life is to learn how to live; the next is to live.

"Life to come will be improvement on the life that's now; destroy  
 Body's thwarting, there's no longer screen  
 Between soul and soul's joy."

"Reap this life's success, a failure! Soon shall things be unperplexed  
 And the right and wrong, now tangled, lie unraveled in the next."

In the absolute and perfect acceptance of the will of God—as revealed to us by events that perpetual sequence which forms the texture of experience—in this perfect acceptance of the will of God—not in mere enforced resignation and abasement, but joyfully, resolutely, so entirely as to throw one's self in strong co-operation with it,—in this lies the key, the only key to the happiness of human life. "It is the pledge of our best intercourse with one another," says Phillips Brooks; "the assurance of our sacred relationship, that we have vast power to make one another unhappy," and adds:

"The necessary condition of that privilege which the father has of filling his child's life with sunshine is the other power, which just as certainly belongs to him, of darkening it with a heavy cloud. What would you care for any man's sympathy or approbation if all the while you know that that same man's sneer or coldness would not give you even a twinge of pain? No necessary is it to our best life with one another that we should have power over one another's joy."

"And yet we can see just as clearly how dreadful it would be if this power reached in to the deepest happiness of which we are capable. All of us practically insist that there shall be some enjoyment with which no man shall interfere. With my ordinary acquaintances, almost any man's slander may put me for the time out of conceit, but my friendship with my tried and trusted friend there is no slander that can rattle for a moment. My light prejudices and tastes any siphon may disturb, but upon my deep and settled convictions of what is true a tempest may blow in all its fury and they will not shake."

All this joy which cannot be taken from one, is absolutely interwoven with the entering absolutely into accord with the will of God. No discord of human cross-purposes can interfere or affect the mutual friendships which are held in the divine relations. God reveals His will in every event that occurs to us; it is for us to make it our own and thus, in merging the human life into the divine life, partake freely of its strength, its radiance, its power, its exaltation.

All the factors that make up the experimental life here are developed and continued into like life that is to come.

"No work begun shall ever pause for death."

To live into significance, making every day tell for certain achievement; to live into power, making every day radiate the nobler meanings, is to live in joy, in radiance, and in that rapture of faith in God which renders all effort worthy and helpful to humanity.

Correspondents of the Transcript are recalling the old restaurants of Boston, but so far as I have seen no one has mentioned the place kept by the father of Billy Park on Devonshire street and Morton place. Then there was Fenno's in Theatre place, which the cooking of Mrs. Fenno made famous. But two of the localities mentioned have passed out of existence and elongated avenues have succeeded them. And Billy Park's on Bowdoin street! But that was comparatively of recent date and was swallowed up, Welsh rabbit and all, by the progressive Parker House.

The levitating Grigolatti in "Humpty Dumpty," at the Colonial Theatre, east in the shade the feast that the Ravello used to perform, though those were the Ravello's wonderful enough in their day, and their exhibitions in "The Green Monster" and "Mazul, the Night Owl," used to delight and astonish the playgoers of the past. It should be remembered that these French pantomimists introduced roller skating here in "The Skaters of Wilna," many years before it became a popular pastime.

Along the line of their work there has been great advance and the old-fashioned Drury-Lane Christmas pantomime, if it were now in existence, would pale its ineffectual fire before "Humpty Dumpty," Harlequin and the Clown remain in and in their new environment are as amusing as heretofore. They are immortal, ever returning, like the birds in the elusive springtime.

It was Billy Morris of negro minstrel fame who used to eat his bread at Gilson's in the days when he was whistling and singing "Listen to the Mocking Bird," and was warbling about a 2.40 gait on the road to Brighton. What would he say if he saw an automobile there today, or some of the fast horses that have been developed of late years. Other times, other speeds!

THE CROW.

Why does the crow awaken me,  
 So early in the morn,  
 I'm not a scarecrow I am sure  
 Upon a field of corn?

So asked I humbly enough,  
 And then when came a pause  
 I said he does not worry me  
 I'm certain without cause.

They are interesting, require much training, yet with all their brilliancy of action are very helpless. Constant attention is necessary. A saddle must be well groomed. Nothing finer for his skin or his coat than Glycerine, a stable balm. Bathe with a sponge. Make a delightful strengthening rub-down. Supplied by

EASTERN DRUG CO., BOSTON.

## A Smart Jumper

They are interesting, require much training, yet with all their brilliancy of action are very helpless. Constant attention is necessary. A saddle must be well groomed. Nothing finer for his skin or his coat than Glycerine, a stable balm. Bathe with a sponge. Make a delightful strengthening rub-down. Supplied by

EASTERN DRUG CO., BOSTON.

Standard Leather Company</



## Poetry.

## THE OLD BOOK.

Truths doctrine from the saints of old,  
Which shines out bright in every word  
Rings truer than the purest gold,  
Because it cometh from the Lord.

It speaks a message of the free,  
And how to smother Satan's chains  
By pointing us to Calvary.  
The cleansing stream for crimson stains.

Nor lighter light on sea or land,  
Can'er outlast its lustrous rays;  
On faith's grand pinnacle it stands  
Throughout the everlasting days.

A comfort to the poor and weak,  
If they'll but open up their eyes,  
And look ahead that light to seek,  
It will guide them into paradise.

Yet, setting souls we daily find  
The grand Old Book to disbelieve,  
Pursuing such a darkened mind  
Which wondrous works they can't conceive.

In higher criticism's art  
We note a wily tempting snare,  
Attempting hard to make us part  
From what we deem a treasure rare.

But thanks to God, the great and high  
Most Holy Father over all;  
Beside the Book we'll live and die,  
For He sees us fit to call.

With the mansions of the blest,  
Where criticism cannot mar  
The sweet angelic joyous rest  
That's found behind the Judgment Bar.

GEORGE MCKENZIE.

## THE LAST MOMENT.

Among the waning shadows of the night  
Came one whose presence was a long-lost light,  
Whose voice was long lost melody divine,  
Saying, "The Present Time alone is thine."

My prisoned soul went out to a swift reply:  
"Since thou art gone, no Present Time have I,  
But only the deep-memored, sunken Past."  
(The Presence vanished up the Heavenly Vast.)

It was my doubt the blessed vision grieved;  
What comfort mine, had I the voice believed,  
And plucked that moment's darkness, dewy bloom  
In shadowy land, though girl with waking dream.

—Edith M. Thomas, in 20th Century Home.

## LETTY'S GLOBE.

When Letty had scarce passed her third glad  
year,  
And her young artless words began to flow,  
One day we gave the child a colored sphere  
Of the wide earth, that she might mark and  
know.

By tint and outline, all its sea and land,  
She patted all the world: old empires peeped  
Between her baby fingers; her soft hand  
Was welcome to all frontiers. How she leaped,  
And laughed and prattled in her world-wide  
bliss.

But when we turned her sweet, unlearned eye  
On our own isle, she raised a joyful cry—  
"Oh! yes, I see it, Letty's home is there!"  
And while she hid all England with a kiss,  
Bright over Europe fell her golden hair.

—Charles Tennyson Turner.

## IN THE COUNTRY.

The tree by the gate is brown and bare  
And it shows no signs of spring,  
But a bluebird set on a twiggy branch  
And warbled like anything.

His back was blue as the blue of the skies,  
And his breast was pink as a rose,  
And he looked like a nod of promise there  
To bloom when the spring breeze blows.

And I guess he's going to bloom all right,  
For another one came his way,  
And he cottoned to her to beat the band,  
And they both had a lot to say.

He fuzled his feathers and chirped and chirped,  
And the other one cooed and cooed,  
Then they shook their wings and away they flew  
In the pleasantest kind of mood.

But they came back soon with straws in their  
bills,  
A chatterin' with delight,  
And by and by, when the spring has come,  
I guess they'll be here all right.

—W. J. Lampton, in New York Sun.

## PRAISE OF THE FIG.

I sing the Fig. Who does not love him well  
In form of rasher, pickled pork, or ham?  
Great Fig I'll sing, whilst hackney'd bardlets  
tell  
The doubtful virtues of the leggy I-b.

All love thee, Tho' our food should cost us  
more,  
The mighty man who plans'd the Fiscal Jig.  
At thought of thee, with melting heart forbore,  
And cried aloud, "I cannot eat the Pig!"

Especially the Fig, thou dost pervade the whole  
Of our existence, breakfast, dinner, tea,  
The railway sandwich and the sausage roll,  
The steaming tripe, bear evidence of thee.

Philosopher of homely fat content,  
Art thou not Poet too—with power to lie,  
All heedless of thy mean environment,  
And summon peaceful day dreams to a sty?

—London Daily News.

## THE WORLD'S TEST.

We faint would walk abroad with spring,  
Impatient to begin it,  
Like other fair ones sweet, she calls,  
"I'm ready in a minute!"

We fret, and fuss, and watch the clock,  
The minutes rarely loom;  
Spring dons a robe of tender green,  
A dash of faint perfume.

And when at last she comes to us,  
So fair do we behold her;  
So radiant and beautiful,  
We have no heart to scold her.

—Puck.

## Brilliant.

Better trust all and be deceived,  
And weep that heart that doleful,  
Than doubt one heart that believed,  
Had blessed one's life with true believing.

Wouldst shape a noble life? Then cast  
No backward glances towards the Past;  
And though somewhat be lost and gone,  
Yet do thou act as one new-born.

What each day needs, that shalt thou ask,  
Each day will not its proper task.

—Gotho.

"O Lord, I thank Thee that my feeble strength  
Has been so blest, that sinful heart and cold  
Were melted at my pleading—know at length  
How sweet Thy service and how safe Thy fold!

While souls that loved Thee saw before them rise  
Still higher heights of loving sacrifice."

So prayed the monk; when suddenly he heard  
An angel speaking thus: "Know, O my Son,  
Thy words had all been vain, but hearts were  
stirred,

And saints were edified, and sinners won,  
By the poor lay brother's humble aid  
Who sat upon the pulpit and prayed."

—Adeleide A. Proctor.

For where hope lies, there love will be,  
For the angel multitude . . . I, with my  
friend, believed

That a benignant spirit was abroad  
Whom might not be withstood; that poverty  
Abjact as this world in a little time  
Be found no more; that we should see the earth  
Unshattered in her wish to recompense

The meek, the lowly, patient child of toil—  
All virtues forever blotted out  
That legalize confusion, empty pomp  
Abolished, sensual ease and cruel power,  
Whether by edicts of the one or few;  
And finally, as sun and crown of all,  
Should see the people having a strong hand  
In framing their own laws; whence better days  
To all mankind.

—William Wordsworth.

## Miscellaneous.

## Eddy, Impey and I.

Eddy and I are engaged. Impey is a sky-  
raker. He has just won a great deal, and so have  
other girls' pet dogs, but only Impey has been  
up the Zinal Rother, a mountain near Zermatt,  
13,865 feet high.

Not that we meant to take him. He came.  
We took the little dog as far as the inn in the  
Trift Valley, where we spent the night before the  
ascent of the Zinal Rother. At five in the morn-  
ing I was awakened by bumps upon the wall.

At three we started, pursued by Impey's howls.  
Before we were roped together Eddy gathered  
a bunch of edelweiss and I pinned it in the  
lapel of my tweed coat. You can't look love  
through black gauze snow spectacles, but I  
guessed the expression that lay behind Eddy's.

Father hoped on in front, as usual, tied to  
the sled and most experienced guide. I kissed  
my hands to the Matterhorn—an old friend. The  
red-tinted, Government-owned rope was read-  
justed, we stood in line ready to start, when the  
brown-faced leading guide exclaimed and pointed  
to a little brown, quivering ball upon the snow.

It was Impey without a collar, nearly done up,  
but very ready to lick my hand. Out of the  
question leaving him behind, no eddy carried  
him, as he wanted to bite the guide who volun-  
teered to.

We negotiated a snow slope, keeping the rope  
well stretched between us, and then came a  
slide, like the onset of a frozen wave.

Then, firm, gritty rocks were beneath our  
tread, and climbing was a mere joke with such a  
splendid hold. Through a wide gap in the south-  
ern side of the peak we had a glimpse of mar-  
ble gorges and mountains, rising whitely into  
the azure and splendid loneliness of the sky.

Then the gray snow steep and steep, stable of  
rock standing edge upon edge. We veered to  
the north and made a level traverse—not with-  
out slips and bruises.

Then, as the slope warmed up, and yet more,  
warmed pleasantly by the sun, we had for the  
hands and cracks for the feet to help on.

Here father came into sight, just negotiating  
the last bit before the summit, and in a few  
moments we had landed beside him.

Do like a comfortable mountain-top, I  
said, leaning against Eddy as we sat together on  
a boulder. Then we prepared to go down,  
taking the Zinal side of the peak instead of re-  
turning to Zermatt.

"Wuff," remarked Impey, as Eddy buttoned  
the little dog inside his Norfolk jacket, and my  
chambers parent with his guide vanished—ap-  
parently into space.

"And I am going in front with Plottier," I  
remarked, by way of asserting my dignity.

"You will not," said Eddy, rather white about  
the nose.

My answer was merely to slip the first loop  
of the rope over my head. Guide No. 1 took the  
next, Eddy and Impey were left the safe in-  
genuous middle, guide No. 2 bringing up the  
rear. The vibrations of the rope conveyed to  
me that my promised husband's temper was at  
simmering point.

"Madness," exploded Eddy, as, seated, I slid  
dauntless downwards. Quite conscious of the  
insanity, I persevered, enduring speechless  
agonies as we bumped from ledge to ledge.

When my mind was not occupied with the dis-  
posal of my feet and hands, it was secretly  
bused with my obituary notices.

"A young English lady, daughter of a well-  
known Alpine climber, sustained a fatal accident  
in descending the Zinal Rother. Her pet dog  
refused to leave her, and a rising young English  
baron, the unhappy fiancé of the beautiful  
victim of woman's imprudence."

I led off with the wrong foot at this juncture.  
There was a horrible—horrible jerk. I hung  
against an ice-glazed rock, like a spider at the  
end of a gossamer thread, only my thread was  
tied to the rope, made at Chamois dockyard, and  
were three men behind me, all of them with  
strong muscles, two of them with very large  
feet.

Well, it did not last very long. I was hauled  
up, regained safe footing, and we descended  
without further mishap.

Afterwards, over the glaciers and through the  
blooming meadows, we walked to Zinal in the  
glowing sunshine.

"O, the blue, blue poppies!" I cried in raptures  
before they faded. "And do you smell the  
meadow-sweet? It must be meadow-sweet; it  
is exactly like it!" O, thank you. How kind of  
you!

These gushing expressions of gratitude were  
addressed to the biggest-footed guide, who  
brought me a bouquet of rose and pale-pink  
primulas, giant myosotis, like little bits out  
of the sky, purple orchids, gentian and white  
clover. And as I gushed I ostentatiously un-  
pinned and hurled away my poor little bunch of  
edelweiss.

After that crowning outrage Eddy stalked by  
me in frozen Alpine dignity, the while I prattled  
of all things on earth.

We had never yet had a real rope. Now we  
were going to have one. My engagement ring, a  
hoop of rubies bought in Milan, and never very  
tight, felt warningly loose upon my finger.

Then there was a little yelp and bark com-  
ing close at our feet by the border of the  
meadow. Impey wagged and groaned apologet-  
ically at our feet. He had brought me back the  
bunch of edelweiss I had so rudely thrown  
away, and now led it before me, mutely plead-  
ing for peace and good will.

Eddy, saying something under his breath,  
picked up the battered treasure trove, and as I  
took it from his hand his fingers closed on  
mine. . . . The ruby hoop was quite tight  
against my finger again.

And that is the story of Eddy, Impey, Edel-  
weiss and I—Clio Graves, in Lady's Pictorial.

## Douth's Department.

## IN DOLLAR.

My dolls are all great magic folks.  
They live in Wonderland,  
And they can turn to anything  
When I just wave my hand.

Most all the time I live there, too,  
And sometimes I'm a queen,  
Sometimes a fairy godmother.

A witch, but never mean,  
Though I do have to turn some dolls  
To bad men, for in plays  
They have to have one truly bad

So good can get more praise.  
My dolls all have madness  
And lovely concertos too.  
The prima donna always is  
My singing dolly, Lou.

I nunch her, and she sings so sweet  
The others all admire.  
And often when we're playing church  
We two make up the choir.

Doll Vernon's always making love  
To little Florabel;  
She laughs and turns away her head,  
Just like my Auntie Nell.

And all the time I see grown folks do  
I let my dolls do, too;  
It seems so real in Wonderland  
I quite believe it's true.

I'm always mother just at dusk  
And rock my dolls to rest.  
For they all turn to babies then,  
And then I love them best.

—Exchange.

## Dress Suits and Crime.

A correspondent of the New York Sun says:  
The question, "Shall a young man on a salary  
of \$15 per week have a dress suit?" has been  
argued recently at some length, and with  
diversified opinions in your columns. Will you  
permit me to say a few words as to why I think  
the small-salaried man should not even own an out-  
fit of full evening dress?

I was impelled to write this letter, partly by  
previous convictions on the subject and partly by  
an incident which occurred in an adjoining  
village within a week. A young man whom all  
thought above suspicion was detected in a  
forgery. It was the old story, an attempt to  
keep up a full dress appearance on a brown jaco-  
net income; result, a young man's future mis-  
placed, his old parents humiliated and distressed,  
and they will be obliged to make good the theft by  
a mortgage on their small village home. If this  
boy is to be saved from becoming an ex-convict,  
I have seen this fellow in his dress suit at least

ing social functions for the past two or three  
years, and wondered how he kept it up. I doubt  
very much if his parents knew what a dress suit  
was, being in a less civilized state of society than  
their son, who doubtless thought them well  
enough, but was secretly ashamed of them.  
I found a man on \$15 a week in the country  
fall in keeping up a dress suit, what becomes  
of the city man trying to do so? His own expense  
about for a time on richer friends, for the pos-  
session of a dress suit presupposes that it is to  
be worn; but occasions will arise demanding ex-  
cessive expenses which must be met, requiring  
more money than the \$15 man has at his disposal,  
after his board is paid and his shoes topped, etc.  
I am sure that a dress suit is dangerous prop-  
erty for such a man. It would be much better  
for him to use the money to buy brain food,  
which would enable him to obtain a higher  
salary.

## The Crocodile.

The following is a Chicago boy's composition on  
"The Crocodile." "The crocodile is a large  
animal that inhabits the Nile and loves to go on  
its back to back in the sunbath and lay  
its eggs. It looks more like a dinosaur, only there  
is more of it at the ends and it is bigger. There  
was a crocodile once that escaped from a dyma.  
It roamed over the country, seeking in vain for  
pigs and small children to devour, and died of  
starvation in great anguish. You can ride on  
the back of a crocodile, but it is not a very com-  
fortable ride. It is usually quiet, but is terri-  
bly when roused. We all ought to be thank-  
ful we are not a crocodile."

## The Gray Squirrel.

"One of the most familiar sounds of the sum-  
mer woods is the rattling bark of the red squi-  
rel," writes an observer. "The tones of his  
voice are varied, and there is a great differ-  
ence between his angry bark, his cry of fear, the  
chattering monologue with which he addresses  
an intruder on his domain, the running fire of  
rejoice which is the constant accompaniment  
of his play, and the soft, plaintive cry which he  
uttered when he is apparently suffering from  
sheer enjoyment of the sound or as a challenge  
to some unseen enemy of his own tribe, and  
which reverberates through the woods often  
sufficient force to carry the sound for as much as  
half to three-quarters of a mile. If we listen for  
an instant when we hear one of these challenges  
sent forth we may hear it answered from some  
distant point so faintly that we cannot be cer-  
tain that it is not an echo. Some other male has  
heard the challenge and, deprecating the self-  
satisfied note in it, has answered, and we may  
fairly certain that they are hastening toward  
each other, each with the intention of annihilat-  
ing his foe or at least teaching him a lesson."

Gray squirrels, unlike most of the rodents,  
do not hibernate in the winter time, but are  
about and very active during the season. Their  
nests are then in hollow trees, but they usually  
leave these retreats in March and build a new  
one of leaves and twigs. If you can  
watch a squirrel in this manner a large quantity  
of nuts, you will see him take a nut in his cheek  
pouch and hop along the ground, testing it every  
yard with his front feet. When he has found a  
spot entirely to his liking he will scoop out a  
shallow hole, and, placing the nut in it, will  
cover it up with the ends of his tail, and then  
stamp down and restore to its former condition  
by scraping the loose leaves and small stones  
over it.

"This performance he repeats again and  
again in that and other localities until he has  
hidden away in this manner a large quantity of  
nuts, one squirrel often burying several hun-  
dred. In the winter, as he needs them, he  
unearths these nuts, and it is wonderful how un-  
erringly he can go to his various caches, even  
though, as frequently happens, they may all be  
covered with a foot or more of snow."

## At-the-stick.

In a large boys' school in the North a fire  
recently made an excellent excuse for a new  
building. When the boys returned from their  
summer vacation they found a handsome Queen  
Anne structure with modern conveniences and  
decorations, in marked contrast to the old school  
structure. The walls were of arched red brick  
plaster, with a dado of burish four feet high;  
and such was the master's pride in their im-  
maculate beauty that the flat went forth that not  
a nail or tack must mar their surface.

What was the danger of the head master,  
on passing the open door of a mischiev-  
ous and law-defying pupil's room to behold a  
row of neckties hanging against the wall, ap-  
parently each on a separate tack.

With black frown and angry stride the master  
entered the room and summoned the delinquent  
to explain why he had so flagrantly disobeyed  
and to remove the offending tacks instantly.

With hanging head, but twinkling eye, the  
rogue removed the ties, showing no tacks or  
fastenings whatever on the virgin surface of the  
wall.

"What? How? How did you hang them  
there?" thundered the amazed head master.

"Just this way, sir," said the boy, demurely,  
as he pressed a gaudy ascot on the rough gray  
plaster. "The master told us to hang them there."

The master retired precipitately, and a roar  
from a hidden audience, who fully appreciated  
the success of their trap.—N. Y. Tribune.

Death of Old Non Comprehend.

Joe Francis told me to me in this way, when  
we were at supper at Hippogonous:

"One fall I was guiding Frank Hinkley; Louis  
Nicholas was guiding another sport. We were  
near the mouth of Allagash. Frank said, 'Joe,  
do you speak French?'"

"I don't know a word of French, but I said  
'Yes.'"

"Well," says Frank, "I want you to go down  
to the St. John's with me this afternoon to get  
some milk and butter and eggs."

"I told him to get Nicholas, as I knew he  
spoke French; but he must have me; so I thought  
I could work it. I said Nicholas in French  
what milk, butter and eggs were in French, and  
I kept saying over the words till I thought I  
knew them. Well, when we came to the first  
house, Frank says, 'Joe, let us stop here.'"

"When I tried to remember the words I found  
I had forgotten them all. There were a lot of  
children out doors, and I says, 'Frank, you  
don't want to stop here. This is a schoolhouse.  
Don't you see the children?' I was in hopes I  
might get time to remember, but Frank would  
go in. Well, when we got in there were over a  
dozen children. They had no ladder, but there  
were pins driven into the corner posts, and the  
children were running upstairs just like mice.  
Frank says, 'Joe, fire away your French.'"

"I asked the woman in Indian, she says  
'Non comprehend.' I says, 'What does she  
say?' I says, 'She says there is an old  
peddler named Non Comprehend who comes round  
every week and buys all the milk, butter and  
eggs. He has just been round.' Frank says,  
'Then we will try the next house.'"

"I asked the next woman in Indian, she  
says, 'Non comprehend.' I says, 'What does she  
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## Historical.

The oldest sailing craft in the world is the  
so-called galleon, a Viking vessel discov-  
ered in a sepulchral mound on the shores of  
Christiania, Norway. It is a thousand years old.

Those of us interested in American history,  
whether aboriginal or school or acquired,  
will be interested to read that Benedict Arnold, his  
brilliant and treason perhaps more vividly than  
almost any prominent figure of the Revolution.

The students of those times recall that  
Washington next him, with those soldiers, on the  
ill-fated expedition to Quebec in 1775 by the way  
of the Kennebec river and through the forests of  
Maine. Two miles below Gardiner, in Colburn's  
yard, his command halted long enough to con-  
struct two hundred bateaux with which he pro-  
posed to transport troops and supplies through the  
Northern woods. A week ago J. Rafter  
and Abbot Lord Gardiner, both of them  
fish the river for sport, brought up in their great  
sturgeon net, directly opposite where the bat-  
eaux were built, an anchor or grapnel, which is  
undoubtedly the same as Arnold left.

It is some four feet long and carries five  
arms welded to its base. It was evidently fash-  
ioned of wrought iron over an anvil. These  
anchors were thrown out ahead of the bateaux,  
by which means they were pulled through rapids  
and swift water. For 125 years the anchor  
remained in the waters of the Kennebec, and it  
came to light, a mule, but eloquent reminder of  
the man who betrayed his country.

James Graham, who belonged to the later  
part of the eighteenth century, must be credited  
with pre-eminence in quackery. He took  
a house in the Royal Adelphi, in London, in  
which he ornamented gorgeously, and inscribed with  
the words "Templum Aesculapii Sacrum," and  
here he delivered nightly lectures, instruct-  
ing patients how they could live in health and  
beauty for one hundred years; the



